OKLAHOMA IS NO. 1: Can Nebraska Beat 'Em?

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From the editors of Football Digest

UR EXPERT PREDICTIONS

- 1. Oklahoma
- 2. Ohio St.
- 3. UCLA
- 4. Nebraska
- 5. Michigan

- 7. Clemson
- 8. Miami
- 9. Penn St.
- 10. Auburn
- 6. Arkansas 11. Florida St.
 - 12. LSU
 - 13. Washington
 - 14. Pittsburgh
 - 15. Tennessee

- **16. lowa**
- 17. Notre Dame
- 18. Colorado
- 19. Florida
- 20. N. Carolina



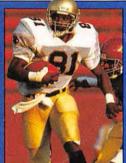
Gaston Green



Jamelle Holieway **OKLAHOMA**



Joe Paterno PENN STATE



Tim Brown NOTRE DAME

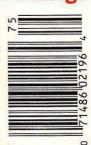


Big 8 Contender NEBRASKA



Chris Spielman OHIO STATE

Predicted Standings



BIG 8

- 1. Oklahoma
- 2. Nebraska
- 3. Colorado
- 5. Iowa St.
- 6. Missouri
- 7. Kansas St. 8. Kansas

BIG 10

- 1. Ohio St.
- 2. Michigan
- 3. lowa
- 4. Oklahoma St. 4. Michigan St.
 - 5. Minnesota
 - 6. Northwestern 7. Illinois

10. Purdue

- 8. Indiana
- 9. Wisconsin

PAC-10

- 1. UCLA
- 2. Washington
- 3. Arizona St.
- 4. USC
- 5. Arizona 6. Stanford
- 7. California 8. Oregon
- 9. Oregon St. 10. Wash. St.

SEC

- 1. Auburn
- 2. LSU
- 3. Tennessee
- 4. Florida
- 5. Georgia
- 6. Alabama
- 7. Mississippi
- 8. Kentucky
- 9. Mississippi St. 10. Vanderbilt

SWC

- 1. Arkansas
- 2. Texas A&M
- 3. Texas
- 4. TCU
- 5. Texas Tech
- 6. Baylor
- 7. Houston
 - 8. Rice

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College Football R7 Yearbook





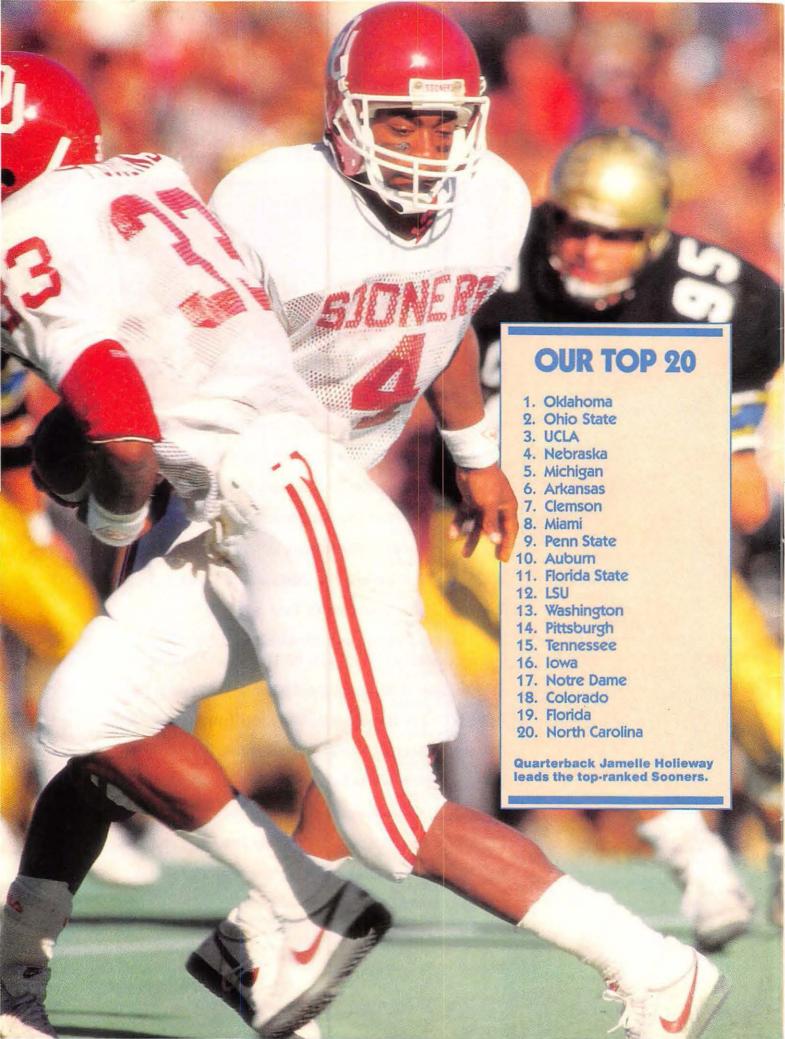


Cris Carter

Jimmy Johnson

Gaston Green

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Atlantic

Coast

Conference

Clemson Has The Depth To Rule Tobacco Road

OUR OF THE EIGHT ACC Clemson not ony the preseason frontteams have new coaches in 1987, which is not only rare, but it makes for risky predictions.

However, Danny Ford (the ACC's alltime winningest and nation's sixth-best active coach percentage-wise at .731) returns at Clemson, where in the last eight years he has compiled a 66-23-4 record with five bowl trips and a national championship. Such stability at the helm, an unusual eight-game home schedule, and awesome size and depth up front on both sides of the ball make Clemson the team to beat.

But the Tigers' role as favorites should not be chiseled in stone. An unsettled situation at the tailback position and a suspect passing game leaves Clemson vulnerable to at least three prime contenders and maybe even a darkhorse such as Duke.

On paper, there doesn't appear to be much difference among North Carolina State, North Carolina, and Marylandexcept in their schedules. For that reason, N.C. State, one of the few teams to overwhelm Clemson a year ago, may emerge as the top threat against the favored Tigers.

North Carolina, perhaps more than any other team in the conference, can match Clemson's physical strength up front. Maryland also figures to offer a stiff challenge for the ACC championship, while Duke, with a new coach promising a wide-open offense, may be the league's surprise team in '87.

Clemson

The Tigers, returning 17 starters from an 8-2-2 year, go into the season favored, or at least even, against every team on their schedule. That scenario makes runner but also a good bet for a bowlsomething Danny Ford has accomplished in 13 of his 20 years as a college football player, assistant coach, and head coach.

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Clemson
- 2. North Carolina
- 3. North Carolina State
- 4. Maryland
- 5. Georgia Tech
- 6. Duke
- 7. Wake Forest
- 8. Virginia

Players To Watch:

John Phillips, OG, Clemson; Naz Worthen, WR, N.C. State; Mark Maye, QB, North Carolina; Kevin Walker, LB-FB, Maryland; Jerry Mays, TB, Georgia Tech: Steve Slayden, QB, Duke; Mike Elkins, QB, Wake Forest; Sean Scott, DE, Vir-

Teams To Watch:

N.C. State, Duke

Games To Watch:

Sept. 26-Maryland at N.C. State: Oct. 17-North Carolina at N.C. State, Duke at Clemson; Nov. 7—Clemson at North Carolina

But to earn a league title or bowl bid this season Ford will have to find a dependable tailback from a group of 11 untested candidates. To fully comprehend the importance of the position in the Tigers' scheme, consider that Clemson tailbacks have averaged 28 attempts and 140 yards a game during Ford's tenure.

Nevertheless, whoever totes the ball will do so behind a talented and experienced offensive line. Guard John Phillips, a first-team UPI All-America selection as a junior, leads the line, which returns intact from tackle to tackle. The unit allowed only three quarterback sacks in

Quarterback Rodney Williams, the MVP in the Tigers' 27-21 Gator Bowl win over Stanford last season, returns to direct the option offense, complemented by alternating fullbacks Chris Lancaster and Tracy Johnson. Keith Jennings leads the wide receiver corps.

Defensively, sack-minded tackles Michael Dean Perry and Raymond Chavous and middle guard Tony Stephens average 6-foot-3, 281 pounds. The linebackers hope to be more consistent, and cornerback Donnell Woolford heads an experienced secondary. Although not the strongest of placekickers, David Treadwell has shown an uncanny knack for producing in the clutch.

"We have as good a chance of winning the title as we did last year," said Ford, "but there are a lot of new [coaching] faces in the league. Coaching philosophies are going to change. We won't be able to use the old scouting reports this season."

The Tigers are so strong, though, that it may not be a problem.

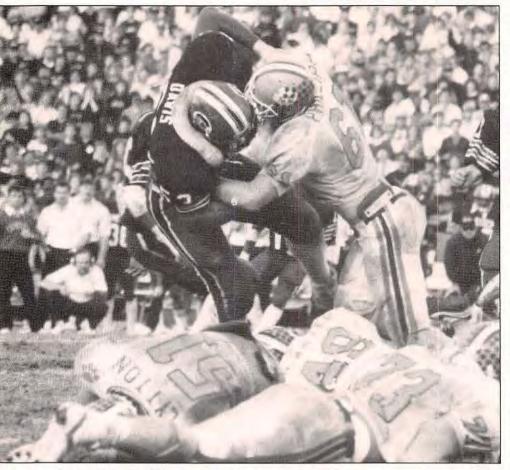
"We should be in the thick of things," Ford said. "Our No. 1 strength is in terms of our numbers. We have depth and a lot of people returning who have competed on Saturday afternoons in the fall. This may be the best-looking group of linemen I've had, but until they've lined up 12 times and won 12 times—like our 1981 bunch did-I can't say they are the best group I've had.

"Our No. 1 area of concern is the skill positions; we need tailbacks to come through who have never played before. Players who have accounted for nearly 13,000 career all-purpose yards have graduated from the tailback and receiver positions, and finding replacements for

Atlantic

Coast

Conference



Guard John Phillips is one of 17 returning Clemson starters.

them was our top priority during our back from academic ineligibility in 1986. spring practice sessions."

North Carolina

The Tar Heels of coach Dick Crum have set their goal on improving last year's inconsistent defense. North Carolina led the ACC in total offense last season behind quarterback Mark Maye, the league's most efficient passer, but UNC ranked only fifth in defense.

However, nine starters, including five standout seniors, return on defense. Crum hopes that a solid core of talent linemen Tim Goad, Reuben Davis, and Carlton Bailey, linebacker Brett Rudolph, and cornerback Derrick Donald-will lead the resurgence of the Tar Heels' defenders.

Maye, a senior, is back after completing 62.5% of his passes for 1,401 yards and 10 touchdowns a year ago. Tailback Derrick Fenner (1,250 yards) is expected

A brutal non-conference slate (Illinois, Oklahoma, Navy, Auburn) will make it difficult for North Carolina to improve upon last year's 7-4-1 mark, which included a trip to the Aloha Bowl. The Tar Heels will encounter a crucial ACC schedule stretch late in the season, facing N.C. State, Maryland, and Clemson in succession.

"We have the potential to be an outstanding football team," said Crum. "But I've seen other teams with a lot of potential that haven't accomplished a lot. We must take advantage of the ability that we have. Of course, we could develop into a really great team and still not have the type of record one would normally think such a team might have. I think the schedule is that tough."

North Carolina State

Dick Sheridan, whose .745 percentage

made him the winningest active coach in Division 1-AA during eight years at Furman, last season gave North Carolina State fans hope of a revival in its longsuffering program. But even the most optimistic of Wolfpack faithful could not have imagined such a quick turnaround at the Raleigh, N.C., campus. The Pack played only one poor game all last season to finish 5-2-1 in the ACC and 8-3-1 overall (and missed going 11-1 by a total of six points). Sheridan's debut earned a trip to the Peach Bowl, the school's first postseason appearance since '78. For his role in the rebirth of a program that had gone 3-8 in each of the previous three campaigns, Sheridan earned ACC Coach of the Year honors and CBS-TV National Coach of the Year laurels. After State's win over Clemson, CBS even named Sheridan as its "Player of the Game," an unprecedented move.

However, even with Sheridan's magic touch, State may be pushed to equal last year's record. A host of key players, including quarterback Eric Kramer, the ACC Player of the Year in 1986, won't be around this time. That leaves Sheridan in search of a new field general from among six inexperienced candidates. But experience abounds in the offensive line. And star wide receiver Naz Worthen should be one of the nation's best pass-catchers.

Defensively, N.C. State will rely on tackle Ray Agnew, the league's rookie of the year in '86, and strong safety Chris Johnson, but too many holes need to be filled to expect a repeat of a year ago. Yet, supporters of Sheridan have learned never to be surprised at what his teams accomplish.

"With the loss of 16 very talented seniors, we have a lot of holes to fill," Sheridan said. "Our running game has to improve; we don't want to throw the ball as much as we did last year. Defensively, we need to do a better job of rushing the quarterback. That's a critical area."

Maryland

Joe Krivak has called the plays from the press box the last five years for a Maryland offense that averaged 33 points a game and scored 171 more points than any other ACC club during that span. Now Krivak is the head coach and promises to keep the offense excit-

He has the talent to continue the same type of attack. In his first season at the controls, quarterback Dan Henning rewrote most of the single-game and single-season records set by predecessors Boomer Esiason, Frank Reich, and Stan Gelbaugh, who all went on to play in the

NFL. Henning has his four top receivers back in 6-6, 235-pound Ferrell Edmunds, an All-America tight end candidate; and wideouts Azizuddin AburRa'oof, James Milling (the top target last year with 33 catches for 650 yards), and Vernon Joines. Most of the offensive line returns, as does 6-3, 240-pound linebacker Kevin Walker, the Terrapins' version of "The Refrigerator," who doubles as a blocking fullback in short-yardage situations.

The Terps, however, didn't have enough quality players like Walker on defense last year, a sore spot that cost Maryland dearly. The team that dominated the ACC with a 21-2 league record the previous five seasons under coach Bobby Ross slumped to 5-5-1 overall and 2-3-1 in the conference. When Krivak took over for Ross, he immediately scrapped the wide-tackle-six defense in favor of a multiple front with a four-man secondary. It was an effort to halt opponents who were averaging 35 passes a game against the Terrapins' three-man secondary.

If Krivak's plan to revamp the defense is successful, Maryland figures to be in the thick of the ACC battle.

Georgia Tech

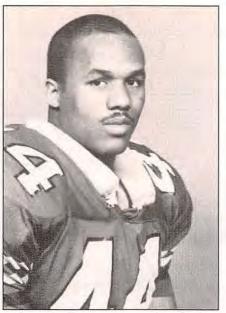
Bobby Ross made one of those rare inconference switches last year. Originally he resigned his Maryland position and joined the Buffalo Bills as offensive coordinator. But then the Georgia Tech job opened when Alabama hired Bill Curry, and Ross reversed his field, jumping back into the ACC. The Terps' loss became the Yellow Jackets' gain. In Ross, Tech acquired a quality person and a quality coach who should continue the rebuilding begun by Curry.

Ross, who guided Maryland to three ACC titles in five years, used his first spring practice to instill discipline, precision, and competitiveness in the squad. He pinpointed the offensive line as a focal point in the effort to improve last year's 5-5-1 record. But if he can mold a cohesive blocking unit, returning star tailback Jerry Mays (842 yards in '86) should be an effective runner. Three seniors will vie for quarterbacking rights. Robert Massey, a 6-5, 240-pound tight end, leads the receivers.

The defense will be headed by noseguard Ivery Lee, secondary standouts Riccardo Ingram and Sammy Lilly, and linebacker Mark White.

Duke

The coach has changed, but the "Double-S" connection remains. Steve Sloan left the Duke coaching job to become the



Maryland linebacker Kevin Walker doubles as a blocking fullback.

Alabama athletic director, but Steve Spurrier takes over and still has Steve Slayden to do the quarterbacking. Slayden completed 58.5% of his passes for 1,914 yards and 14 touchdowns last season, but will likely benefit from the passminded style implemented by Spurrier.

Spurrier, the former Heisman Trophy winner at Florida, comes off a two-year coaching stint with the USFL Tampa Bay Bandits. He's promising the same exciting brand of football at Duke that he taught in the defunct pro league. Slayden will be pitching to swift receiver Doug Green (97 catches for 1,412 yards over the last two seasons) and 6-4, 245-pound tight end Jason Cooper (39 catches for 438 a year ago). Guard Steve Ryan spearheads the offensive line, but the Blue Devils must find capable players at tailback and fullback from a group of inexperienced candidates.

The school's all-time leading tackler, linebacker Mike Junkin, will be sorely missed, but end Dave Demore, linebacker Jim Godfrey, and a secondary that returns intact could combine to lead an improved Duke defense. If the defense comes through, Duke could be the surprise team in the ACC in '87.

Wake Forest

Like Georgia Tech, Wake Forest has a "recycled" ACC coach. However, Bill Dooley took a circuitous route back to the league. Dooley, who took North Carolina to three titles and six bowls in 11 years there, spent the last nine years building a winner at Virginia Tech. Now he returns to the ACC intent on revamping the Demon Deacons program, which

finished 5-6 a year ago but lost three games by a total of seven points.

If Dooley can make waves his first year, he'll likely do it with a high-octane offense featuring quarterback Mike Elkins (ACC total offense leader in '86, including 2,541 yards passing), running backs Darryl McGill (859 yards rushing) and Chip Rives (679 rushing), and 6-4, 250-pound tight end Greg Scales (34 catches and six TDs).

Though Dooley intends to install the run-oriented I-formation, he hasn't overlooked the fact that Elkins exceeded 250 yards passing in six games last year. However, Wake Forest lost most of the offensive front that protected Elkins so well last season.

The defense will be led by linebacker Jimmie Simmons and a secondary with four returning starters, led by cornerback A. J. Greene and safety Joe Walker. Wake's fortunes may come down to how well the defensive line performs, and Dooley has brought in two beefy Juco transfers to shore up that key spot.

Virginia

After three straight winning seasons and a bowl appearance—its first in 94 years—Virginia dipped to 3-8 in 1986. Coach George Welsh has some good players returning this season, especially at wide receiver and running back, but probably doesn't have enough overall manpower to threaten within the ACC.

Sophomore Durwin Greggs came on strong late last season and joins juniors Chris Warren and Kevin Morgan to give the Cavaliers three experienced running backs. Keith Mattioli (44 catches for 717 yards) and deep threat John Ford (32 receptions for 555) form a fine wide receiver duo. Senior quarterback Scott Secules will direct the multiple-I attack. With four starters back along the line, Virginia should score some points in '87, but Welsh needs vast improvement from a young defense that last year allowed an average of 28.6 points and 415.8 yards per game.

Senior defensive end Sean Scott, a team captain for the second straight year, led the team in tackles last season with 88, including seven sacks, and recovered three fumbles and forced three more. The questionable area of the defense is the interior front, where the Cavaliers lack size and experience. Without the all-important bulk up front, the Cavaliers may be in for a long season. Stern road tests against Georgia and Maryland in their first two outings won't make things any easier.

—Ernie Trubiano

League

Brown Has The Tools To End Penn's Title Streak

ALK ABOUT HANDLING pressure, Pennsylvania coach Ed Zubrow walked right into the fire last year and came out glistening. The rookie head coach not only continued Penn's recent dominance of Ivy League football, but he also did much to enhance it.

Zubrow last season faced the unenviable task of replacing Jerry Berndt, now the coach/athletic director at Rice and the man who turned Penn from Ivy doormat to league power. Although he had to fill a big void left by graduation, Zubrow took the Quakers' lofty accomplishments one step further. He led Penn to an unprecedented fifth straight Ivy title and a sparkling 10-0 record, the first perfect season in school history.

The Quakers' impressive streak may come to a halt in 1987. Graduation has dealt the team a severe blow—even worse than in '86—by claiming 16 of 22 starters. Penn still has much talent and will challenge for another Ivy championship, but it could be overtaken by a couple of fast-rising programs: Brown, which has been knocking on the door the last two years, and Cornell, which turned things around last fall and finished just a game behind the Quakers.

Brown

The Bruins placed fourth in the league (4-3) in 1985, John Rosenberg's first season as head coach, and then enjoyed a third-place finish (4-2-1) a year ago for their first back-to-back winning campaigns since 1979-80. With the return of 36 lettermen, including many veteran offensive players, the Bruins might just grab the Ivy crown this fall.

"Experience at quarterback and running back are strengths that you want to have," Rosenberg said. "We have our top people back at these positions."

Brown has the league's top quarterback in senior Mark Donovan, a secondteam All-Ivy choice last season. The 6-4,

Predicted Order Of Finish:

- 1. Brown
- 2. Cornell
- 3. Pennsylvania
- 4. Princeton
- 5. Dartmouth
- 6. Yale
- 7. Harvard
- 8. Columbia

Players To Watch:

Chris Flynn, RB, Pennsylvania; Mark Donovan, QB, Brown; Shawn Hawkins, WR, Cornell; Brent Novoselsky, TE, Pennsylvania; Jeff Watts, DE, Brown; Walt Cataldo, FS, Brown; Mike Raich, CB, Cornell

Teams To Watch:

Princeton, Dartmouth

Games To Watch:

Sept. 19—Cornell at Pennsylvania, Princeton at Dartmouth; Oct. 10—Brown at Pennsylvania; Oct. 17—Cornell at Brown; Nov. 14—Brown at Dartmouth; Nov. 21—Dartmouth at Pennsylvania

200-pound Donovan threw for 1,777 yards and set a school record with 15 TD passes. A pair of speedsters, senior Tommy Smith and junior Mark Thompson, are capable wideouts, and senior letterman Jamie Simone has moved from tailback to join them at receiver. Junior tailback Lane Wood was the team's lead-

ing rusher (95 carries for 419 yards) last fall, while senior fullback Jim Kurp has also seen extensive action.

The Bruins are also experienced on defense, particularly up front where tackle Bill Perry and end Jeff Watts both made first-team All-Ivy in 1986. Senior Tyler Wolfram leads the linebacking unit. Senior free safety Walt Cataldo was a unanimous first-team All-Ivy choice and honorable mention All-America recipient last season.

Cornell

To say that head coach Maxie Baughan's four-year rebuilding program came to fruition last season is quite an understatement. Not only did the Big Red achieve its first winning season since 1979 (8-2) and record its best Ivy League record (7-1) since 1971, but Baughan's crew came within one game of winning the Ivy title.

Cornell has 26 lettermen back, including some top defensive players. However, last season's starting quarterback, Marty Stallone, has graduated. Junior Dave Dase, a strong passer, is the leading candidate to replace him, and he'll have some excellent receivers to work with. Senior wideout Chris Hahn had seven TD receptions last fall and was secondteam All-Ivy, while senior Shaun Hawkins pulled in six touchdown passes and set a school record with 22.5 yards per reception. However, the Big Red is without a proven performer at running back because Jeff Johnson, the All-Ivy first-team fullback, has graduated.

The Big Red should be strong once again on defense, where six starters return from a 1986 unit that recorded three shutouts and allowed just 10.3 points per game. The entire secondary is back, fea-



Chris Flynn (917 yards in '86) returns in the Penn backfield.

turing first-team All-Ivy cornerback Mike Raich. Seniors Mark Baughan (Maxie's son) and Todd Reimund and juniors Mike McGrann and Len Tokish head an excellent linebacking crew. First-team all-league selection Gary Rinkus returns at defensive tackle.

Pennsylvania

Last year the Quakers enjoyed a perfect season despite the loss of 11 starters. This year the graduation losses may be too great to overcome. Among the casualties: Rich Comizio, Penn's all-time leading receiver and the 1986 Ivy Player of the Year; two-year starting quarterback Jim Crocicchia; four-fifths of the offensive line; and eight starters from a defensive unit that ranked second in Division I-AA in total defense.

"Over the past few years, graduation has always taken its toll on us either offensely or defensely, but never both," Zubrow said.

The Quakers do have one of the league's top running backs in senior Chris Flynn, who was first-team All-Ivy and rushed for 917 yards last season. Fullback Joe Laurano is back after suffering a knee injury. Brent Novoselsky is a veteran tight end. Senior Dan McNally is the only letterman back at QB.

There is some talent on defense, too. Defensive tackle Mike Lista, outside linebacker Brad Hippenstiel, and cornerback Donald Wilson were all voted second-team all-league a year ago.

Princeton

After tying for second place in the league during his first year as head coach, Ron Rogerson found things much tougher in 1986; his squad slumped to 2-8 overall. But the Tigers could get back on the winning track this fall, thanks to the addition of three brothers.

When Jim Garrett was named head coach at Columbia in 1984, he already had one son on the Lions football team-John, a standout wide receiver. Brothers Jason, a quarterback, and Judd, a running back, were playing at Princeton at the time, and they decided to transfer and join their father in New York. But when dear old Dad was quickly dismissed after one season, all three headed to Old Nassau. Columbia's loss could certainly prove to be Princeton's gain. Jason, a junior, starred on the 1984 Tiger freshman team and has excellent potential. Judd, a sophomore, was the leading rusher, receiver, and scorer on Princeton's 1985 freshman squad. John, a senior, figures to rack up bigger numbers now that his brother is doing the throwing. Helping them out will be senior fullback Jerry Santillo. The receiving crew includes Jeff Baker, who was named second-team All-Ivy last fall.

Senior linebackers Matt Whalen and Pete Milano are two of six returning starters on defense. The Tigers also have an outstanding free safety in Dean Cain.

Dartmouth

The Big Green has a new coach in Buddy Teevens, but he is hardly a new-comer to the program. Teevens, who comes to Hanover after churning out back-to-back winning seasons as head coach at Maine, quarterbacked Dartmouth to an Ivy championship in 1978.

With 13 of 22 starters back from last year, the prospects are good that Dartmouth will improve upon its 3-6-1 record of 1986. But first Teevens must find a replacement for last season's All-Ivy quarterback, David Gabianelli, and the team's top ground gainer, Ernie Torain. Junior Tom Shakeshaft was the second-string quarterback last fall and has the inside track for a starting berth. At running back, junior Chris Pollard is the top returnee, while senior fullback Terry Phillis averaged 4.5 yards per carry. Junior split end Craig Morton was the Ivy League Rookie of the Year last

season. Senior tight end Matt Drury made 29 catches and averaged 14.1 yards per grab.

Defensively, every starter is back on the line and in the backfield, including tackles Ish McLaughlin and Brent Fell and strong safety Brett Matthews.

Yale

The Elis will try to shake the injury bug that plagued them last year, which contributed to a disappointing 3-7 record and sixth-place finish in the league.

Despite being hobbled by a knee injury, quarterback Kelly Ryan was able to shatter the Yale single-season passing record in '86, throwing for 1,739 yards. His main receiver will be senior Dean Athanasia, the first-team All-Ivy tight end who has led the team in receptions the last two years. Junior tailback Kevin Brice led the squad in rushing and scoring last season.

Still, the Elis must shore up a defense that in 1986 allowed more than 300 yards per game.

Harvard

The Crimson was forced to rebuild last season, and the result was an uncharacteristic 3-7 record. Now coach Joe Restic must replace another big senior class.

Junior Tom Yohe emerged as the starting quarterback last season, and he figures to lead the offense once again. However, his backfield mates have all graduated. Senior halfback Bob Glatz and junior fullback Tony Hinz are likely to assume starting roles.

Harvard figures to be very strong on the defensive line, where four key players—ends Kevin Dulsky and Don Peterson and tackles Jim Bell and Tom McConnell—return.

Columbia

The Lions are on track to set an NCAA record, but it's a record they'd just as soon not own. Columbia has lost 31 straight games, and if it drops its first four contests this year, it will top Northwestern's record for most consecutive losses by a Division I school.

Nevertheless, Columbia did show some positive signs under rookie coach Larry McElreavy. Seniors David Putelo and Chris Della Pietra both saw action at quarterback last season. Durc Savani is a two-year veteran at tailback. Junior Homer Hill has been the Lions' top receiver for the past two seasons.

Junior linebackers George Gianfrancisco and Mike Doyle will lead the defense.

-Mark Goldberg

Colonial

Conference

Lockbaum and Holy Cross Should Conquer The Colonial

N 1986 OFFICIALS FROM FIVE Eastern universities met to form a football conference. First they took away athletic scholarships. Then they limited the amount of spring practice. And, finally, they decreed that the league champion would not be eligible for postseason competition.

These are not exactly the normal steps taken in forming a football league. But then the Colonial League is hardly your typical conference.

This new Division I-AA league was created for reasons other than geographic proximity. The league members share a philosophy, one that believes in a symbiotic relationship between athletics and academics. It's not a new concept; the Ivy League has been following this philosophy since 1954. But the Colonial League reaffirms the belief, and the new conference forms a "partnership" with the Ivies. The two circuits are going head-to-head in nonconference games, and perhaps soon the league winners will meet in a "championship game."

The first year of the Colonial League was a big success, with Holy Cross winning the championship. Things look better for '87. Davidson has left the Southern Conference to become the sixth Colonial team.

As far as this season's race is concerned, Holy Cross figures to repeat as champion. With 34 lettermen returning, the Crusaders should have too much talent for their new league rivals.

Holy Cross

The Crusaders, 10-1 last season, are the favorites to repeat not really because they have so many lettermen returning, but because they have one particular letterman back. Senior Gordie Lockbaum is worth four players on any other team—literally. Lockbaum led the Colonial League in receiving (57 catches) and scoring (22 TDs), ranked second in all-

purpose running (198 yards per game), was fourth in rushing (827 yards), and finished third in kickoff returns (21.5 yards per attempt). Oh yeah, he also found the energy to be one of the conference's top defensive players, which earned him all-league honors as a defen-

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Holy Cross
- 2. Colgate
- 3. Lehigh
- 4. Lafayette
- 5. Bucknell
- 6. Davidson

Players To Watch:

Gordie Lockbaum, RB-DB, Holy Cross; Kenny Gamble, RB, Colgate; Jim Given, QB, Bucknell; Mark McGowan, QB, Lehigh; Jeff Wiley, QB, Holy Cross; Greg Schiano, LB, Bucknell

Teams To Watch:

Colgate, Lehigh

Games To Watch:

Sept. 26—Holy Cross at Lehigh; Oct. 3— Colgate at Holy Cross; Oct. 31—Colgate at Lafayette; Nov. 21—Lafayette at Lehigh

sive back as well. Unquestionably, Lockbaum was deserving of the league's MVP award. He's back in '87 and raring to go.

Not that he needs it, but Lockbaum will receive plenty of support. Junior Jeff Wiley (2,464 yards passing) returns as the starting quarterback, and his top two wide receivers, Wally Dembowski (41 receptions) and Lee Hull, are also back. So is fullback Tom Kelleher (737 yards).

In addition to being the league's top scoring team in 1986, the Crusaders had the stingiest defense. Although a pair of Division I-AA All-Americans, linebacker Jerry McCabe and lineman Steve Southard, have graduated, six starters return from a unit that limited the opposition to just 88.5 yards rushing and 149.0 yards passing a game. Tackles Mike Jednak and Andy Martin and ends Jim Kelly and Tom Smith anchor the front line. In addition to Lockbaum, the secondary features two outstanding players in cornerback Dave Murphy (seven interceptions)—just a sophomore—and senior free safety Tom Estep (six interceptions).

"Even though we enjoyed a fine season a year ago, our goal this year is to work hard to improve," said Holy Cross coach Mark Duffner. "We'll take it one day at a time." And the Crusaders figure to enjoy every minute of it.

Colgate

The Red Raiders had a down year in 1986, suffering their first losing campaign (4-7) in eight seasons. The offense did its share, totaling 39 or more points in four contests. But the defense was far too charitable; it allowed 40 or more points four times. "For us to be successful," says head coach Fred Dunlap, "this has to be the year of the defense."

The defense should come through, as eight starters return, including All-Colonial League performers Tony Khalife and Greg Manusky. Khalife is joined at the tackle spot by junior Brian Douglas, and seniors Nick Panos and Don Bedell and junior Joe Hunt provide plenty of experience at the end spots. Manusky, a linebacker, led the Red Raiders with 162 tackles last season. Some holes must be plugged in the backfield because senior Sheldon Spicer is the only returning starter.

Over the last three decades Colgate has produced three outstanding running backs—former pros Marv Hubbard and Mark van Eeghen and current Pittsburgh Steeler Rich Erenberg—but senior tailback Kenny Gamble is perhaps the best yet. Gamble became the Red Raiders' alltime leading ground gainer last year and led all Division I-AA rushers in all-purpose running (220.5 yards per game) and rushing (1,816 yards). Senior fullback Todd Buckner, the team's second-leading rusher last season, is also returning. But the Red Raiders must patch up an offensive line that has lost four starters.

If the running attack is slowed, Colgate can hurt its opponents through the air. For the first time in three years, Dunlap has his starting QB returning. Junior Damon Phelan became the starter three games into the '86 campaign and passed for 1,474 yards. Senior split end Buddy Brown earned all-league honors, catching 38 passes for 516 yards.

Colgate has more than enough offensive firepower to get back on the winning track this season. If the defense improves as expected, the team will challenge Holy Cross for the league crown.

Lehigh

In his first season as head coach, Hank Small led the Engineers to a 5-6 record in '86. It looks as though Small has enough good, young offensive talent to climb above the .500 mark and challenge for the league title.

Small is blessed with the return of, not just one, but two starting quarterbacks. Juniors Mark McGowan and Jim Harris split the playing time at QB a year ago and combined to do an outstanding job; McGowan, the Colonial League Rookie of the Year, enjoyed a completion percentage of .597 and threw for 1,589 yards in 11 games, and Harris had 978 passing yards and eight TDs in five contests. Junior Lee Blum is one of the league's most talented running backs. He ranked third in the conference in rushing (849 yards) a year ago and was fourth in receiving (40 receptions). Fullback Rich Curtis is his backfield mate. The top receiver is John Gorman, who made 32 catches last season. Senior Mike Beattie is a strong placekicker.

The Engineers are also deep in the secondary. Steve Banco led the unit with seven interceptions last season, and he is joined by two other returning starters: Glenn Comisac and Terry Williams. Kevin Rife, a three-year letterman, leads the inside linebackers, while Mike Petersen will man one of the outside positions. The line will be paced by senior nose guard Don Ferrell and junior tackle Peter Pawlenko.

Lafayette

Seven starters are gone from a very potent offensive unit that helped Lafayette to a 6-5 record a year ago. Among the missing is all-league tailback Bruce McIntyre, who ran for 1,287 yards in '86.

The Leopards are counting on the continued improvement of sophomore quarterback Frank Baur, who emerged as the starter at the end of last year. Baur will be pushed by Paul Struncius, a senior who threw for 859 yards in eight games last season. Juniors Kurt Bowman and Jim Adams, both two-year lettermen, lead the running backs. Bowman gained 345 yards rushing on 76 carries in '86. Senior receiver Phillip NG had a team-leading 41 receptions last year, while wideout Jim Johnson made seven TD catches.

Lafayette figures to be very strong



League MVP Gordie Lockbaum plays both ways for Holy Cross.

defensively because 21 lettermen return, including 12 players who started at one time or another. Senior Mike Shumaker led the team in tackles last year with 54 solos and 44 assists, and he is joined at linebacker by three-year letterman Horace Davis. Senior Mike Joseph is one of the league's top safeties. He recorded seven interceptions and had a hand in 91 tackles during 1986. Joseph has a fine partner in free safety Dave MacPhee, who picked off five passes a year ago.

Bucknell

If the Bisons are to improve on last year's 3-7 mark, they must develop a running attack; the backfield averaged just 50.7 yards per game in '86. To complicate matters, Bucknell's top rusher, tailback Earl Beecham, has graduated, and so have all three fullbacks. Steve Wiess (161 yards) is the only ball carrier with experience.

But Bucknell has few worries about its passing attack, which averaged 246.5 yards per game last year. Senior Jim Given was named the all-league quarterback in 1986 after completing 59.5% of his passes for 2,167 yards. His favorite receiver, first-team All-Colonial pick Mike Morrow, has graduated, but there is still proven pass-catching talent. George Long made 24 receptions for 321 yards last year, and tight end Scott Lillis grabbed 28 passes.

The Bisons have an outstanding outside linebacker in Greg Schiano, a first-team all-league selection. Chris Hackley lends support on the outside. Junior Robert Hawkins is back in the secondary after recording five interceptions in '86, while John Carey, the team's only freshman starter a year ago, has been moved from cornerback to safety. Tackle Harry Buell is the top lineman.

Davidson

The Wildcats are faced with quite a challenge this fall. Not only are they entering their initial Colonial League campaign, but the Cats are looking to break into the win column after an 0-9 record last season. They should improve, as 14 of 22 starters are back.

Davidson is particularly experienced on offense, where eight starters form a solid nucleus. Aaron Edwards and Brian Kelly are veteran tailbacks, and Eric Ogden, Ian Filiss, and John Skinner have all seen action at fullback. Sophomore Peter Hughes (51 completions in 122 attempts for 473 yards) is the leading candidate to start at quarterback. He's blessed with several experienced receivers, including Bryan Overcash (23 receptions) and Michael Gross (18 catches) at split end, and Charley Winborne (21 catches) at flanker.

Like so many other Colonial teams, the Wildcats have experience in the defensive backfield. Cornerbacks Steve Neff and Michael Poulos and safeties Jim Ruark and David Trontz comprise a formidable unit. Kenny Nazemetz started at linebacker as a freshman last fall and senior Howard Humphries is also back.

-Mark Goldberg

Major

Independents

The List Of Independents Reads Like A Top Twenty

ISTORY WAS MADE IN 1987 when public pressure and big bucks from the networks combined to promote an unprecedented national championship game at the Fiesta Bowl between No. 1 Miami and No. 2 Penn State.

Penn State was a 14-10 winner for its second title during the 1980s. Joe Paterno's Nittany Lions also won the national championship in 1983.

The nation's independents have produced five national championships since 1976—Pitt (1976), Notre Dame (1977), Penn State (1983), Miami (1984), and Penn State (1986). The power in college football has shifted to the independents, which again include several leading candidates for this season's national crown.

Paterno has assembled another powerhouse at Penn State, Lou Holtz has the fans excited at Notre Dame, Jimmy Johnson has a splendid group of athletes at Miami, Bobby Bowden has a spectacular offense at Florida State, and Mike Gottfried has a bevy of backs at Pitt.

At the top of a long line of outstanding players is Notre Dame's Tim Brown, a multi-talented senior flanker who has Heisman Trophy credentials.

The independents have been on an upswing, and the surge should continue in 1987.

Penn State

Now it's time for Penn State's offense to stand up and be counted. The defense will need a rest in 1987.

"I think we'll have to be different," Paterno said. "Everything the last few years was predicated on putting the burden on the defense and kicking game. The offensive coaches had to play with one hand behind their back and not do a lot of things.

"I don't know whether we can play that way again this year. We may end up throwing the ball more. We may go into a game thinking we have to score more points than we did last year. Where that will lead us, I don't know."

The pressure is on the offense because the defense returns only four starters from the 1986 edition, which allowed 285 yards and 11.2 points a game.

"We're literally trying to regroup at every position except quarterback, and even there we're looking for a back-up," said Paterno. "Every couple of years you go through this kind of thing, but I don't think we've ever had as many areas where we have to start from scratch as we do this year."

One of the few players who is assured of a starting job is senior quarterback Matt Knizner, who will replace John Shaffer. Knizner completed 14 of 36 passes for 217 yards and one touchdown last season.

"I'm very high on Knizner. I think he will be a fine quarterback," Paterno said. "But what scares me is if something happens to him. Who do we have?"

The returning starters on defense are inside linebackers Trey Bauer and Pete Giftopoulos, cornerback Eddie Johnson, and hero back Marques Henderson.

"On defense, we're scared to death of our depth," Paterno said.

Returning starters on offense are tackle Stan Clayton, guard Steve Wisniewski, and wide receiver Ray Roundtree.

Roundtree is expected to be joined by Jim Coates, a back-up receiver last year who specialized in punt and kickoff returns. Also expected in the receiving corps is Michael Timpson, who sat out last year with chronic injuries but appears to be healthy.

The offensive backfield will have a new look without D. J. Dozier, Tim Manoa, and Steve Smith. But at Penn State only the names change. Tailback Blair Thomas set a school record averaging 8.4 yards a carry for 504 yards last season, and he was the team's leading kickoff returner with a 31.9 average.

"We need a big year from Blair Thomas if we're going to be a good football team," said Paterno. "He's going to be a very big part of our offense."

Defensively, Penn State will have its usual crew of outstanding linebackers in Bauer and Giftopoulos, who ranked second and third in tackles last year behind Shane Conlan. Tackle Pete Curkendall and nose tackle Matt Johnson give the Lions strength up the middle. The experienced members of the secondary are Henderson and Johnson.

"I think this will be a fun year for us,"

That means it won't be much fun for Penn State opponents.

Pitt

Mike Gottfried spent his first season trying to restore some order to Pitt's once-proud football program that has fallen on hard times in recent years.

"It was a typical transition year. There were changes that had to be made and I'm glad they're over," he said. "Everything has gotten easier because we've been through a full year together. The biggest thing is familiarity."

Although the Panthers have 16 starters returning from a 5-5-1 team, Gottfried said that he's going to use a number of talented incoming freshmen.

"At least six will play a lot for us right away," he said. "We thought we needed to bring in a class that could turn us around, and we think we did."

There seems to be no question that freshmen Marc Spindler, a 6-5, 265-pound defensive tackle from Scranton, Pa., who was *USA Today's* Defensive Player of the Year, will play immediately. Other high school phenoms who should contribute are running back Danny Boyd, defensive back Lou Riddick, and linebacker Jeff Christy.

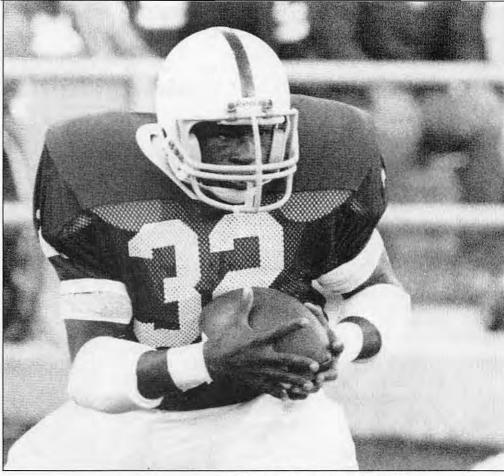
"We're really excited about our young kids," said Gottfried, "but we're also excited about the veterans who will be counted on to provide the leadership for this team."

The Panthers will be more balanced on offense in '87, with massive fullback Craig Heyward and swift halfback Charles Gladman carrying the load more in Gottfried's Run-and-Shoot offense. Heyward, who weighs in at 265 pounds, rushed for 756 yards last season, including 254 against Miami. Gladman, Pitt's first sophomore to rush for 1,000 yards since Tony Dorsett in 1973, slumped to 400 yards last year as a junior and found himself in Gottfried's doghouse.

Gottfried also is looking for a quarterback among seniors Sal Genilla and Joe Felitsky and freshman Larry Wanke. Genilla and Felitsky played sparingly behind John Congemi last season, while Wanke was redshirted.

The receiving corps is solid with flankers Bill Osborn, Hosea Heard, and Michael Stewart, and split end Reggie Williams showed good potential last year before a broken leg ended his season in the third game.

"Just having Reggie Williams back strengthens that position," Gottfried said of Williams, who had 17 receptions for 239 yards before getting hurt.



Penn State is counting on Blair Thomas at tailback.

The backbone of the offensive line is Mark Stepnoski, a 6-3, 255-pound junior guard who compares favorably with former Panther greats Bill Fralic, Jimbo Covert, Russ Grimm, and Mark May. Bill Cherpak will be the other guard, with Tom Ricketts, Chris Goetz, and Roman Matusz battling at tackle and Ed Miller and Chip Backauskas competing at center.

The defense returns ends Jon Carter and Burt Grossman, tackle Tony Siragusa, linebackers Darrel Woods and Jerry Olsavsky, safeties Teryl Austin and Billy Owens, and cornerbacks Quintin Jones and Gary Richard.

"We've built the foundation," said Gottfried. "Now it's time to start winning."

Notre Dame

Notre Dame is probably a year away from greatness, but if Lou Holtz' ballyhooed freshman class lives up to its press clippings and Tim Brown has a Heisman-type season, watch out for the Fighting Irish this fall.

It seems to be only a matter of time

Pitt fullback Craig Heyward is a major force at 265 pounds.



until Holtz gets Notre Dame back on top of the collegiate football world. Last year's 5-6 record was deceiving because five of the losses were by a total of 14 points. With a better bounce of the football, The Irish could easily have been 8-3 or 9-2.

"This might turn out to be a better team than the one we had last year," said Holtz. "I think our players learned what it takes to compete week in and week out against the schedule we play. I thought we were as good as any team in the country the last six weeks of the season."

Notre Dame has seven starters back on offense and four on defense, which should help the team tackle another brutal schedule that includes Michigan, USC, Alabama, Miami, and Penn State.

Holtz's first order of business is to find a quarterback to replace Steve Beurlein, the holder of many school passing records. The top candidates among the returnees are senior Terry Andrysiak, who threw for 233 yards and a TD last season, and junior Steve Belles, who didn't complete either of the passes he attempted in '86. If the veterans fail to impress, Holtz might not hesitate to turn to Kent Graham, a 6-5 high school All-American who passed for 1,515 yards and 19 TDs last season at North High School in Wheaton, Ill.

The hub of Notre Dame's attack will be Brown, a do-it-all junior flanker who broke the school's record for all-purpose yardage in '86 with 1,937 yards (910 receiving, 254 rushing, 698 in kickoff returns, and 75 in punt returns). He also scored nine TDs—five rushing, two receiving, and two on kickoff returns.

"Obviously, we want to get Brown the ball as often as we can in as many different ways as we can," said Holtz. "He's a threat at all times."

Notre Dame returns its top six rushers, led by Mark Green (406 yards, two TDs), Anthony Johnson (349, five TDs) and Pernell Taylor (284, five TDs), but freshman Ricky Watters, a schoolboy All-American, could be a factor.

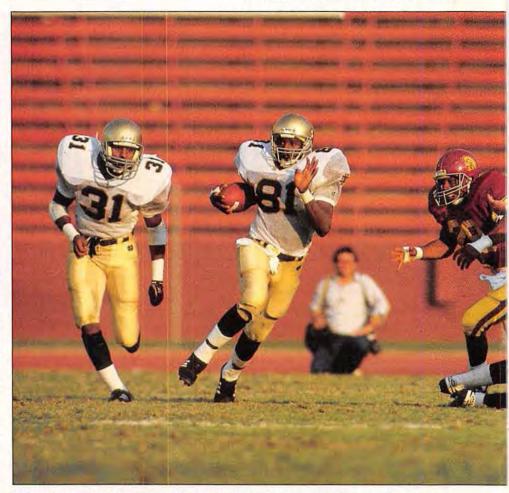
The Irish offensive line is expected to be a strong point with center Chuck Lanza (6-2, 270), tackles Byron Spruell (6-4, 279) and Tom Rehder (6-7, 263), and guard Tom Freeman (6-4, 265).

Defensively, Notre Dame will build around nose tackle Mike Griffin (who is a question mark after undergoing back surgery in January), linebacker Cedric Figaro, cornerback Marv Spence, and strong safety Brandy Wells. Expected to fill some of the holes are tackle Jeff Kunz, linebackers Darrell Gordon and Wes Pritchett, and safety James Bobb.

Major

Independents

rather than its offense to win games. The Hurricanes terrorized opposing quarter-backs in 1986, setting a school record with 49 sacks. Senior end Daniel Stubbs, the leader of the Sack Pack with 17 sacks,



The Irish offense will revolve around Heisman candidate Tim Brown.

One of Holtz's concerns is to find a placekicker to replace John Carney, whose 51 career field goals is a school record.

"I think we put the foundation in during our first year," said Holtz. "Last year we were putting in a whole new system from scratch. We didn't know the players and they didn't know us. Now, I think we're all on the same page."

The '87 chapter of Notre Dame football promises to be exciting.

Miami

The Hurricanes blew away 11 opponents last season with a devastating air attack engineered by Heisman Trophy winner Vinny Testaverde. Miami was an intimidating team, a swaggering band of rogues who took the country by storm until their loss to Penn State in the Fiesta Bowl cost them the national title.

In 1987 Miami will turn to its defense returns, along with eight other returning defensive starters.

Stubbs (6-4, 241) will be joined on the line by end Bill Hawkins (6-6, 245) and tackle Dan Sileo (6-2, 288). Behind them will be a set of ferocious linebackers, led by George Mira Jr., whose 154 career assisted tackles is a school record, and Rod Carter.

Miami's last line of defense is a seasoned secondary that features ballhawking free safety Bennie Blades, whose 10 interceptions last season topped the country. The other members of this talented backfield are cornerbacks Donald Ellis and Tolbert Bain and strong safety Selwyn Brown.

Last season the opportunistic Hurricanes capitalized on 44 turnovers while giving up just 20 for a plus-24 ratio, the first time they have been on the plus side since 1971. The defense will have to be even more dominating in '87 because Miami doesn't have Testaverde or Alonzo Highsmith from an impressive offense that set a school record with 430 points.

Jimmy Johnson doesn't have another Testaverde waiting to explode in '87. The Hurricanes have three untested quarterbacks, none of whom has even earned a letter yet—freshman redshirt Greg Jones and third-year sophomores Bill Turkowski and Steve Walsh. Jones, who has a strong arm and quick feet, was highly recruited two years ago from Miami's Edison High School.

The Hurricanes are long on receivers. Mike Irvin is a big-play man who had 50 catches for 868 yards and 11 TDs in '86. He will shatter most of the school's records before he's done. Brett Perriman has breakaway speed and was second with 34 receptions for 647 yards and four TDs. Tight end Charles Henry isn't afraid to go into traffic and had 19 receptions for 233 yards and two TDs a year ago. Henry will be challenged by Alfredo Roberts, an outstanding blocker with size and strength.

Miami has a pair of hard runners in 208-pound Warren Williams, a slasher who ran for 399 yards, and 217-pound Melvin Bratton, who had 380 yards and eight TDs. The returning starters on the offensive line are Scott Provin (6-5, 248) and Maurice Maddox (6-3, 250).

Temple

The Paul Palmer Era at Temple has ended, but coach Bruce Arians doesn't feel that all is doom and gloom for the Owls.

"Things are going to be a lot different without him [Palmer]," he said, "but we have some fine running backs to take over. There will be less emphasis on the tailback. We have backs who collectively can maybe do what Paul did."

Palmer, who holds 23 school records and was runner-up in the Heisman voting last season, led the country in rushing in 1987 with 1,866 yards and became the NCAA's all-time leader in single-season all-purpose yards with 2,633, surpassing the mark of 2,559 established by Marcus Allen of Southern California in 1981.

"We'll spread the ball around a little more this year," said Arians, whose Owls were 6-5 last season. "The fullback rarely touched the ball and we'll probably run a little more option."

The two tailbacks who will be asked to replace Palmer are junior Todd McNair (6-2, 200), whose 253 yards rushing was second on the team in '86, and sophomore Ventres Stevenson (6-0, 185), who ran for 105 yards. The seldom-used fullbacks who will shoulder more of the offensive load are Craig Sawyer (6-3, 240) and Sheldon Morris, a pair of seniors



Jimmy Johnson is 29-7 in his three seasons at the Hurricane helm.

who have spent most of their time blocking for Palmer.

The Owls probably will stick to the ground until quarterback James Thompson gets some playing time. A fifth-year senior, Thompson completed just one of seven passes for 24 yards last season.

"I feel comfortable at quarterback," said Arians. "Thompson has a great arm. He can do the job."

Thompson will benefit from throwing to senior wide receiver Keith Gloster, a 5-11 speedster who caught 23 passes for 568 yards and seven TDs, and tight end Mike Hinnant (17-202, 2 TDs). Freshman Rich Drayton and junior college transfer Dyron Lintz, a sprinter with 4.35 speed, should make an immediate contribution.

The offensive line is back: tackles Kevin Jones (6-4, 265) and Carl Holmes (6-6, 275), center John Incollinger (6-2, 280), and guards Pete Bernard (6-3, 245) and Chris Possenti (6-5, 260).

Defensively, Temple is solid on the line with senior tackles Rodney Walker (6-1, 255) and Mike Swanson (6-2, 260) and end Andy Pappalardo (6-4, 255), the team's best pass-rusher.

"The defensive line should be the strength of our defense," said Arians.

The secondary was hit hard by graduation, returning only senior safety Eddie Parker.

"It will be interesting to see how the players react without Paul Palmer," said Arians. "If Thompson comes on and has an outstanding year, like he's capable of, he could be a catalyst."

Syracuse

There were times last season when Syracuse's defense was defenseless, when opponents ran through the Orangemen with ridiculous ease. At one point in late October, Syracuse ranked next-to-last in the country in rushing defense and finished the year allowing 2,575 yards on the ground, including 434 in a 42-3 loss to Penn State.

Nine of the players who spent many long afternoons last fall are back from the defense that gave up 266 points and was the culprit for Syracuse's 5-6 record.

"I'm sure they haven't forgotten about last season," said Syracuse coach Dick MacPherson. "I know I haven't. We should be better because everybody's got a year of experience and has something to prove."

Syracuse's defense will be bolstered by the return of senior nose guard Ted Gregory (6-1, 160), a hard hitter who missed 10 games in 1986 with a broken leg. With Gregory in the lineup two years ago, Syracuse ranked fourth nationally in rushing defense.

"That shows you how much he means to us," said MacPherson. "Gregory makes everybody around him better."

Joining Gregory on the defensive line in MacPherson's 3-4 scheme will be senior tackles John Dominic (6-2, 255), a nose guard a year ago, and Paul Frase (6-5, 260). Syracuse has a wealth of returning linebackers: Derek Ward (6-0, 231), Keith Fribers (6-4, 229), Terry Wooden (6-2, 225), Roger Carges (6-3, 222), and David Bavaro (6-0, 224).

The secondary looks sound with four returnees, led by free safety Markus Paul, an All-East candidate.

If the defense can at least slow people down this fall, Syracuse should be improved due to an explosive offense that revolves around versatile quarterback Don McPherson. The 6-0, 182-pound senior holds nine school records, including career TD passes (24) and yards passsing (3,471). Last year he set single-season records for most yards passing (1,827), most attempts (269), most completions (142), most total offense (2,350), and most offensive plays (460), and tied his own record of 12 TD passes. He also led the team with 532 yards rushing.

The Orangemen are solid in the backfield with fullback Daryl Johnson (469 yards) and tailback Rob Drummond (264), but someone is going to have to make room for sophomore Michael Owens, who sat out last season as a Proposition 48 casualty after scoring 65 TDs and rushing for 4,495 yards at Carlisle (Pa.) High School.

McPherson will be throwing to surehanded wide receiver Tommy Kanes, who was third on the team with 19 receptions in 1986 despite missing four games with a broken leg, and tight end Pat Kelly, who was second with 20 catches.

The offensive line will build around tackle Craig Stoeppel (6-4, 300), center John Garrett (6-1, 258), and guard Blake Bednarz (6-3, 281). Placekicker Tim Vesling made 13 of 15 field goals inside 50 yards last year and connected on all 28 of his extra points to extend Syracuse's PAT streak to 180 straight since 1978.

Boston College

It all started with Doug Flutie, the little magician who masterminded all those miracle finishes a few years ago, thrilling fans everywhere and vaulting Boston College into the national spotlight.

The good times are still rolling at Chestnut Hill, where Jack Bicknell keeps churning out explosive teams, having gone to bowl games four of the past five seasons. The high-flying Eagles have 11 starters returning (six on offense, five on defense) from a 9-3 team that won the Hall of Fame Bowl with a 27-24 victory over Georgia and was ranked in the top 20 by both AP and UPI at the end of the year.

Boston College faces the toughest schedule in the school's history in 1987, with home games against national champion Penn State and Tennessee and road games against Southern Cal, Pitt, and Notre Dame.

The good news for the Eagles is a solid defense that features All-America candidate Bill Romanowski, a big-play senior linebacker who is 6-3, 237 pounds and has the pro scouts drooling.

The bad news is an offense that must be rebuilt because of the loss of quarterback Shawn Holloran, who passed for 8,252 yards and 42 TDs in his career, wide receiver Kelvin Martin, the school's all-time pass-catcher, and tailback Troy Stradford, BC's all-time leading rusher and scorer.

"We've got some pretty good talent coming back," said Bicknell, who loves to see the football flying all over the stadium. "We'll do the same things we've been doing."

Offensively, the Eagles will be doing it with a new cast of players at the skill positions. The battle at quarterback is between Mike Power and Mark Kamphaus, a pair of juniors who spent most of last season on the sidelines with injuries.

Bicknell will look to 6-0, 203-pound senior Jim Bell (307 yards in '86) and 5-9,

Major

Independents

208-pound Tracy Giles, who appears to be fully recovered from knee surgery that kept him out last season, to pick up the slack at tailback. The fullbacks are two hard-charging types who love to put their head down and dig out the tough yards—5-9, 217-pound Jim Turner (152 yards) and 6-2, 215-pound Jon Bronner (313 yards).



Virginia Tech's Erik Chapman is rapidly improving at quarterback.

The Eagles are blessed with top receivers in senior split end Darren Flutie, Doug's younger brother who had 35 catches for 531 yards and five TDs a year ago, and fifth-year senior tight end Peter Casparello, a heavy-duty blocker who can catch the ball in traffic.

Up front Boston College boasts a formidable crew anchored by senior guard Joe Wolf (6-5, 269) and senior tackles Dave Widell (6-6, 284) and Jeff Oliver (6-3, 273).

The defense is the team's strength, particularly at linebacker with Romanowski and John Galvin. Plugging the middle of the line is nose guard Dave Nugent (6-3, 270), who will be flanked by senior Eric Lindstrom and Bill Thompson, one of the top end combinations in the East. The secondary is sound with Steve Williams, who had five interceptions last season and is expected to be 100% after undergoing knee surgery.

The kicking game, once considered a weakness, has developed into a strength

with placekicker Brian Lowe, who set numerous school records last season by making 17 of 25 field goals, and punter David Rooney.

West Virginia

Keep an eye on Major Harris, a highly touted redshirt freshman quarterback with a golden throwing arm; he could make a major change in West Virginia football this fall.

"Major is very much in the hunt for the quarterback job," West Virginia coach Don Nehlen said of the 6-foot-1, 215-pounder from Pittsburgh Brashear High School. "If he doesn't play, it's his own fault, not mine. He's been given every opportunity and he's doing very well."

But Nehlen isn't handing the job to his highly celebrated young quarterback. There promises to be a three-way fight for No. 1 between Harris and seniors Mike Timko and Ben Reed.

Timko was the starter most of last season, completing 48% of his passes for 1,191 yards, and Reed saw enough time to pass for 580 yards. But neither generated much offense or enthusiasm for the Mountaineers.

The Mountaineers have eight starters back on offense and seven on defense from a 4-7 team that had the worst record in Nehlen's seven seasons at West Virginia.

"Just because we have a good number of starters returning doesn't mean we are going to have a great football team," he said. "You know we were 4-7 with the same players, but hopefully they improved over the winter and will be better football players."

A lot of the improvement could come from running backs A. B. Brown and Eugene Napoleon, a pair of transfers from Pitt who didn't play last season. They will be pushing Undra Johnson (652 yards) for playing time. Fullback is a question mark, with seldom-used Craig Taylor and Pat Randolph vying for the job.

Whoever does the throwing will be helped by a flock of speedy and talented receivers in Harvey Smith (28 catches, 456 yards, 5 TDs), John Talley (27-353-2), Calvin Phillips (20-289-2), and Grantis Bell (15-267). The tight end is a mystery, with returning starter Gary Basil expected to be pushed by a number of players, including converted tackle Jack Linn.

The Mountaineers consider the offensive line a strength due to returning starters Milton Redwine (6-4, 300) and Brian Smider (6-4, 290) at tackle, Bob Kovach (6-3, 265) at guard, and Kevin

Koken (6-2, 268) at center. A player to watch is Dale Wolfley, a 6-1, 252-pound freshman redshirt lineman who has the potential to move out one of the veterans.

The defense will be asked to carry the load until the offense gets untracked with all of its newcomers. The nucleus is a trio of hard-hitting linebackers: Eric Lester, Robert Pickett, and Darnell Warren. However, they'll be hard-pressed to keep sophomore Chris Haering out of the lineup.

The key to WVU's defense could be middle guard David Grant, who showed potential as a freshman but slumped last season as an inconsistent junior. Tackle Brad Hunt is a good one, but the defensive backfield was stripped of four-year starters Travis Curtis and Larry Holley. Transfer Terry White, who started as a freshman and sophomore at Ohio State before getting into Earle Bruce's doghouse as a junior, should make an immediate impact at safety.

"I was not happy with last year's 4-7 record," said Nehlen, "and I'm sure the players weren't happy. We should be better this year."

Army

The Wishbone, which was once the rage in college football, has done wonders for Army's program since Jim Young installed the formation three years ago.

In 1983, the year before the Wishbone, the Cadets were 2-9.

"We knew we had to do something different," said Young. "It was a gamble, but we figured we didn't have too much to lose."

The Cadets haven't lost too much with the Wishbone, and can post four straight winning seasons for the first time since 1960-63. They led the nation in rushing in 1984, finished second in '85 and sixth last year (276.8 yards a game), and made the school's first two bowl game appearances in 1984 and '85.

The key player in running the Wishbone is the quarterback, and the Cadets have one of the best around in Tory Crawford, a 5-10, 180-pound senior who led all Division I-A quarterbacks in rushing last year with 1,078 yards and 15 TDs on 245 carries. Crawford, who was the sixth player in Army history to run for 1,000 yards in a season, had the third highest rushing total ever at the school. He completed 48 of 98 passes for 816 yards and two TDs.

Army, 6-5 overall in '86, was 5-0 in games in which Crawford ran for 100 or more yards. The Cadets return 10 starters—six on offense and four on defense.

Joining Crawford in the backfield will

be senior fullback Andy Peterson (5-11, 210), last year's third-leading rusher with 623 yards and six TDs, and either Ron Herring or Bill Kim, a pair of seldomused seniors, at halfback. The only receiver with experience is senior tight end Mark Charette (6-2, 216), who had 12 receptions for 312 yards a year ago.

The offensive line is solid with returning seniors Ken Goodlow (6-2, 250) and John Oleinik (6-3, 256) at guard and Bill Schleiden (6-2, 255) at tackle. Guard Jack Frey, a 6-3, 245-pound junior who was hampered by injuries after starting last year's opener, is expected to help. Tackle Ed Shultz, who sat out last year with Hodgkin's Disease, is healthy and should contribute.

Defensively, the Cadets will be counting on a lot of veterans to step into prominent roles for the first time. The only returnees are senior tackle Mike Lover (6-4, 255), who skipped spring drills to rehabilitate his knee; senior line-backer Ray Griffiths (6-0, 220), the team's leading tackler last season with 104; free safety Chance Conner (5-10, 190), who led the team with four interceptions and averaged 11.2 yards on punt returns; and junior end Charles Schretzman (6-2, 215).

The rebuilt secondary will find Dave Berdan (5-11, 195) and Chuck Williams (5-10, 180) at the corners and Edrico Oliver (5-10, 183) at safety.

The kicking game will be handled by Bit Rambush, who averaged 38.8 yards punting and was 20 of 20 on extra points and three of eight on field goals.

Florida State

Offense is the name of the game at Florida State, where Bobby Bowden annually assembles one of the nation's most explosive teams with an arsenal of running backs, wide receivers, and quarterbacks.

With almost everybody back from last year's 7-4-1 team that averaged 33.6 points a game, the Seminoles expect to go to a bowl for a school-record sixth straight season.

"We spent the spring polishing," said Bowden. "If we were all that good we wouldn't have lost four and tied one last year. We've got the same players."

Bowden smiled. "I'm glad we have the same players," he said. "I'm real excited about this group."

The Seminoles are excited about having a healthy Sammie Smith, the most ballyhooed high school player in Florida two years ago. Smith was a medical redshirt his first year after suffering a stress fracture in the opener against Ne-

braska, and last year a series of nagging injuries limited him to 611 yards rushing.

The 220-pound Smith turned it on in the final two games, plowing for 116 yards in a rainstorm against Florida and then rambling for 205 yards against Indiana to run away with MVP honors in the All-American Bowl.

Smith is the centerpiece of Florida State's multi-faceted offense that also features junior tailback Victor Floyd (654 yards rushing), quarterbacks Danny McManus (872 yards, 7 TDs) and Chip Ferguson (807 yards, 4 TDs), wide receiver Herb Gainer (27 catches, 441 yards, 5 TDs), and tight end Pat Carter (16-174). Carter, a bullish 6-4, 225-pound senior, is a brutal blocker who should blossom as a pass-catcher this season.

The offensive line, anchored by 300-pound junior tackle Pat Tomberlin, returns tackle Joe Ionata (6-3, 245), guard Hayward Haynes (6-3, 315), center Michael Tanks (6-2, 237), and guard Jason Kuipers (6-2, 252).

The defense should be improved simply because nine starters are back, led by All-America candidates Paul McGowan, a 6-1, 226-pound senior linebacker who was seventh in last year's voting for the Butkus Award, and junior cornerback Deion Sanders, who could be the team's finest all-around athlete.

Florida State's secondary returns intact for the third straight year, with Sanders and senior Eric Williams at the corners and senior Greg Newell and Stan Shiver at the safety spots.

Derk Schmidt, who should hold almost all of the school's kicking records by the end of the season, is one point shy of becoming the all-time career scorer, and his 50 field goals are three short of the all-time mark. His string of consecutive extra points was snapped at 108 in 1986. Rick Tuten, a senior transfer who kicked for Miami's 1983 national championship team, will do the punting.

Tulane

The Green Wave boasts one of the nation's top passing games, with quarterback Marc Zeno doing the throwing and wide receiver Terrence Jones doing the catching.

Jones, a 6-1 junior with 4.6 speed and a strong arm, is the first player in school history to account for more than 3,000 yards in his first two seasons. Last season he completed 159 of 284 passes for 2,124 yards and 10 TDs and rushed for 547 yards and eight TDs to rank eighth nationally in total offense with 242.3 yards a game.

Zeno, a rangy 6-3 senior, owns nearly

all of Tulane's receiving records and became the first player in school history to gain over 1,000 yards receiving two years in a row. He had 68 catches for 1,033 yards and seven TDs in 1986.

"I know he's one of the top receivers in the country, and there's no way I can see another player being of more value to his team than Marc is to this football team," said Tulane coach Mack Brown. "We work at getting the ball to him."

Tulane has deep threats at flanker in Maurice Nelson and Mario Ballestrasse, but tight end is a question mark.

The offensive backfield is solid since the top three rushers of a year ago return—Rodney Hunter (657 yards), Jones, and Marvin Allen (373). They will run behind a wall that is highlighted by tackle Andre Lockley (6-6, 269).

The Green Wave won't have trouble scoring points this season, but they better find a way to keep the opposition out of the endzone. They allowed a staggering 334 points in posting a 4-7 record last season.

The most active defenders are line-backer Richard Harvey, who had 102 tackles and three interceptions, defensive back Thurston Harrison, a heavy hitter who had 108 tackles and three interceptions, and end Fred Davis (6-1, 219). The only lineman with experience is tackle Richard Sauter (6-3, 250).

"We need to play with aggressiveness and confidence," said Mack. "We need to start believing that we can get the job done on both sides of the line."

Virginia Tech

Frank Beamer, the first alumnus to coach the Hokies in 42 years, has a tough act to follow.

He inherits the shell of a team that went 9-2-1 and defeated North Carolina State in the Peach Bowl for the most successful season in school history. Gone are 12 starters, including tailbacks Maurice Williams and Eddie Hunter, who accounted for 1,901 of Virginia Tech's 2,226 yards on the ground in 1986. Also gone are leading receiver Wayne Snell, four offensive linemen, and the front six on defense.

"We have players who have a tremendous desire to win again," said Beamer, who had a 42-23-2 record in six seasons at Murray State. "We're optimistic that we can keep the winning tradition going."

Despite the loss of key personnel, the Hokies have enough proven talent, led by 10 returning starters, to expect another winning season.

For the second consecutive year the offense will be directed by Erik Chap-

Major

Independents

man, a rapidly improving quarterback who passed for 1,627 yards and 10 TDs and ran for two TDs. The 6-0, 197-pound Chapman will again hook up with three of his favorite targets from a year ago—tight end Steve Johnson (33 catches, 391 yards, 3 TDs) and flankers David Everett (15-205) and Myron Richardson (9-112). Tyrone Branch, a 4.5 speedster who played sparingly at tailback last season, switched to flanker in the spring and moved into the starting lineup.

Earnie Jones (114 yards) is set at fullback, but the job at tailback is wide open with the leading candidate being Malcolm Blacken. Three redshirted players—Ralph Brown, Lamar Smith, and Carl Coles—will challenge the veterans.

A young offensive line will be rebuilt around senior guard Kevin Keeffe (6-1, 260), the lone returnee.

Defensively, the Hokies will line up with a lot of new people who lack only experience. The new leader could turn out to be Victor Jones, a part-time starter last year at end who had 49 tackles and a blocked punt. Although the front line was decimated by graduation, the linebacking corps is solid, led by Jamel Agemy, the team's second-leading tackler in '86. A couple of converted defensive backs-Sean Lucas and Eddie Neel, who was sidelined early last season by a knee injury-have been switched to outside linebacker. Hard-hitting safety Carter Wiley, who had 74 tackles and three interceptions last year, heads up the secondary.

If the games are close, Virginia Tech will have an edge with junior placekicker Chris Kinzer, who hit 22 of 27 field goals in 1986 and provided the winning margin in six games.

Rutgers

Some of the optimism for the 1987 season was tempered in the spring when starting tailback Matt Prescott and starting nose guard Doug Kokoskie went down with knee injuries. Both Prescott, the leading rusher last year with 606 yards and six TDs, and Kokoskie will be lost for the year.

Still, Dick Anderson's Scarlet Knights return a solid nucleus from last year's 5-5-1 team, with seven starters (not counting Prescott) back on offense and five (not counting Kokoskie) on defense.

Rutgers is looking for continued improvement from junior quarterback Scott Erney, who completed 50% of his passes for 1,160 yards and six TDs, although he didn't become a starter until midway through the season. The experience should help Erney cut down on his 11 interceptions. He has a flock of surehanded receivers in senior tight ends Bruce Campbell, last year's leader with 30 catches for 323 yards, and Greg Alvord, and speedy wideouts Brian Cobb and Eric Young. In addition to being deep pass threats, Cobb and Young are dangerous kickoff and punt returners.

The Knights have a bevy of runners to replace Prescott. Fullback Curtis Stephens is a bruiser in short-yardage situations and has the speed to come out of the backfield to catch passes. Dan Lipsett, Mike Botti, and Henry Henderson will share time at tailback.

The offensive line has some holes in it, but tackle John Kutz (6-4, 250) and guard Doug Strickland (6-3, 245) are good ones.

The strength on defense will be the secondary, which features senior cornerback Jean Austin, sophomore Derek Baker, and senior Sean Washington. They will be playing behind a set of new linebackers—Pat Udovich and either Bob Speidel or Chris Peckel.

The defensive front wall will be weakened without Kokoskie, but end Alec Hoke (6-2, 235), third last year and the top returning tackler, is expected to soften the loss. Part-time starters George Bankos (6-4, 270), Scott Miller (6-4, 250), and Nick Tompkins, a 6-7, 250-pound transfer from Rice, will get first crack at filling some of the gaps.

Navy

The Midshipmen enter the 1987 season under new coach Elliot Uzelac, who is bringing in the Wishbone attack and new enthusiasm in an attempt to turn around the program. Uzelac will be starting almost from scratch since only a handful of starters return from last year's team, which finished the year with seven straight losses and a 3-8 record.

"I don't want to be so one-dimensional that we can't do anything else, but I like the Wishbone," said the 45-year-old Uzelac, who spent the past five years as an assistant at Michigan. "I think it lets you make use of the talent available, and you can teach the offense as quickly as any. It's also very team-oriented."

Uzelac will give the responsibility of directing the offense to quarterback John Nobers, a senior who has played seven downs in three years, completing one pass for six yards and rushing three times for 17 yards.

"John Nobers makes the right decisions, reads the option, throws well, and threatens the defense on the perimeter," Uzelac said. "He knows his limitations, like lack of speed, and has great mental toughness. I can get all over him in practice, and he'll come right back to lead the team down the field for a touchdown."

The focus of Navy's ground-oriented attack will be halfback Chuck Smith, who rushed 190 times for 933 yards and scored 10 TDs a year ago. Despite a hamstring injury in the seventh game that wrecked the remainder of the season, the 5-10, 194-pound senior managed to rank 15th in the nation in rushing. The speedy Smith also had 26 catches for 280 yards.

"We could get the ball to Chuck as many times as we want out of the Wishbone, but I don't believe one player will ever win a game for you," Uzelac said. "We're going to need contributions from a lot of people."

The Midshipmen have a big and strong offensive line and a fleet of swift receivers to take some of the pressure off Nobers. Joe Brennan (6-4, 275), Bruce Bennett (6-4, 253), and Brian McGoldrick (6-4, 264) should provide some running room for Smith and Co. Split end Troy Saunders has All-East credentials after totaling 29 catches for 446 yards and four TDs last year.

Like the offense, Navy's defense will have a new look in 1987. The only returning starters are defensive backs Curtis Irby and Mike Marchildon.

"All the other positions are wide open," said Uzelac, "We still don't know who is going to be playing where."

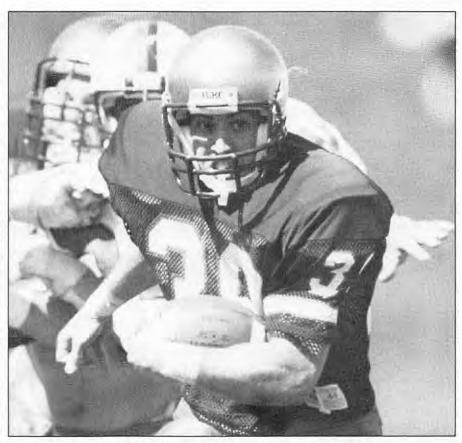
The candidates are many. Battling on the line will be Mike Musser (a starter two years ago who was slowed by injuries last year), Troy Holland, Clark Nichols, and Mike Jimenez. Mark Pimpo, who played enough last year to have 31 tackles, has the inside track at one linebacker spot. Dave Moyer, Scott Prinz, and Rob Garretson are other possible starters.

"We have a lot of work to do," said Uzelac, "but I'm excited about the challenge. But you never know how young players are going to react when they get on the field for the first time."

South Carolina

Joe Morrison entered spring drills confident that his offense could move the football but full of questions concerning the defense.

New defensive coordinator Joe Lee Dunn switched from the 4-3 to what he



Halfback Chuck Smith will lead Navy's new Wishbone offense.

calls the "50" defense, and the score of the spring game was 2-0.

"I'm not worried about our offense," said Morrison, whose Gamecocks were 3-6-2 last year. "And I'm not as worried about our defense as I was when we started practice."

The pass-happpy Gamecocks, who used the Run-and-Shoot offense last year for the first time and ranked 16th in passing offense (289.7 yards a game) and 17th in scoring (313 points), are led by record-setting sophomore quarterback Todd Ellis. The 6-3, 200-pounder rewrote the school's record books for most yards passing in a season (3,020), most yards passing in a game (394 against Virginia Tech), most TD passes in a season (20), and highest completion percentage for a season (60.3%). The only negative statistic was Ellis' 22 interceptions, also a school record. In just one season, Ellis became the third all-time career passing leader at South Carolina.

On the receiving end of 74 of Ellis' tosses last year was wingback Sterling Sharpe, who set school records for catches, yards (1,106), and touchdown receptions (10).

"There is not a better all-around athlete in the country than Sterling Sharpe," said Morrison. "When things get tight you look for certain players, and Sterling is that type of player for us."

Ryan Bethea, a 6-3, 215-pound junior wide receiver, combines with Sharpe to give the Gamecocks one of the most prolific receiving duos in the country. Bethea had 28 catches for 605 yards and five TDs last year.

Although South Carolina used the run sparingly in '86, sophomore Harold Green flashed a lot of promise by rushing for 421 yards and six TDs. The Gamecocks have an offensive line that is deep in experience and talent, featuring such lineman as Charlie Gowan (6-4, 260), Mark Fryer (6-4, 244), Paul Shivers (6-3, 245), and Woody Myers (6-5, 260).

The reconstructed defense features senior safeties Greg Philpot and Brad Edwards, linebacker Derrick Little (6-4, 235), and nose guard Roy Hart (6-0, 245). If the Gamecocks are to improve upon last year's disappointing record, they must improve a porous defensive unit that was dented for 286 points during the 1986 campaign.

With a little luck—South Carolina lost three games by a total of nine points and missed two last-second field goal attempts in last year's ties—a new defensive scheme, and 25 players who were redshirted last season, the Gamecocks could easily turn their record around in '87.

-Phil Axelrod

Mid-American

Conference

Toledo's Momentum Is The Winning Edge

NTERING THE FINAL DAY OF the 1986 season, three teams were tied for the Mid-American Conference lead and the possibility of a sixway tie existed. This season will be no different.

"There's a ton of experienced teams coming back," said Tim Rose, coach of defending champion Miami. "It's as wide open as I've ever seen it. But that's been the norm. I would expect a wideopen race."

The fact that six teams finished within two games of Miami is a tribute to the MAC's competitiveness. So too is the fact that no school has won back-to-back championships since Central Michigan in 1979 and '80. In fact, six different teams have won the league title in the last nine years.

Picking this year's champ is not an easy task. Seven teams have legitimate shots at the title. But when the smoke clears, the Toledo Rockets should stand atop the MAC standings.

Toledo

The Rockets (7-4 overall and 5-3 in the MAC a year ago) ended 1986 as the MAC's hottest team, winning their last five games.

"We ended strong in 1986, but that's 1986," said coach Dan Simrell.

Recent history, however, indicates there's more to it than that. Miami went into last season with a five-game winning streak; 1984 champion Bowling Green won its last four in 1983; 1982 champion Northern Illinois won its last three in 1981; and 1981 champion Bowling Green won five of its last six in 1980.

"The team that gets hot at the end of the year usually has kept it going," Miami's Rose said. "Toledo has the momentum."

The Rockets return nine starters on offense, but they have one huge hole to fill—the loss of tailback Kelvin Farmer, who led the MAC in rushing with 1,532 vards.

The offensive line, with George Linberger and twins Todd and Tim Olsen,

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Toledo
- 2. Miami
- 3. Kent State
- 4. Eastern Michigan
- 5. Central Michigan
- 6. Bowling Green
- 7. Bali State
- 8. Western Michigan
- 9. Ohio U.

Players To Watch:

Steve Huffman, LB, Toledo; Gary Patton, TB, Eastern Michigan; Andy Schillinger, WB, Miami; Rodney Stevenson, TB, Central Michigan; Sheldon White, DB, Miami; Patrick Young, QB, Kent State; Eric Wilkerson, TB, Kent State

Teams To Watch:

Kent State, Miami

Games To Watch:

Oct. 24—Miami at Toledo; Oct. 31— Toledo at Kent State; Nov. 14—Miami at Kent State

figures to be one of the league's best, while experience is also back at wide receiver, where Eric Hutchinson and Bob Waczenski return.

Six starters return on defense, including All-MAC linebacker Steve Huffman,

but the secondary, which lost five fifthyear seniors, could be suspect.

Another factor working against Toledo is the schedule. The Rockets play both Miami and Kent State, the teams expected to give them their stiffest challenge, on the road. Last year, the home team won 30 games and lost only six in MAC play.

"Our goal is to be a contender," Simrell said. "We've got to keep ourselves in that position."

Miami

The Redskins lost plenty of talent from last year's 8-4, 6-2 team, but they still have sufficient talent returning.

Three first-team All-MAC selections are gone, including the league's most valuable player, quarterback Terry Morris. Tailback George Swarn, a second-team choice who rushed for 1,112 yards, also graduated.

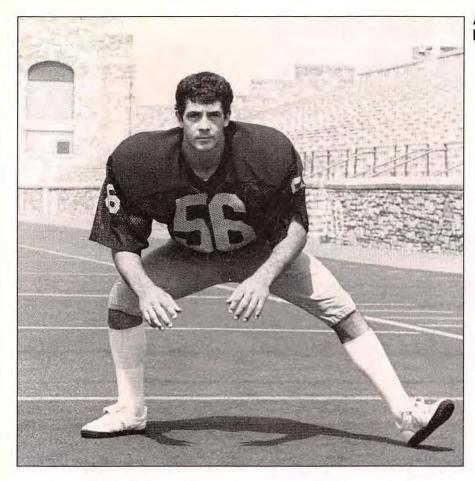
In Oxford, though, talent is never at a shortage. Miami has won 13 titles in its 39 years in the MAC.

Heading the list of returnees is all-league wingback Andy Schillinger, whose 20.8 yards per catch average was ninth best in the nation last season. Schillinger accounted for 955 yards and 12 touchdowns receiving, tops in the nation

Also returning are defensive tackle Andrew Marlatt and defensive back Sheldon White, both first-team All-MAC choices a year ago.

"The nucleus is solid," Rose said. "The key is how well our quarterbacks and running backs come along. We have a chance to be a good football team. We can be competitive, but you can say that about any team in this league."

With placekicker Gary Gussman, who



All-MAC linebacker Steve Huffman [left] leads Toledo's defense.



Wingback Andy Schillinger should keep Miami in the race.

Ball State

How well the Cardinals play can be summed up in two words: Wade Kosakowski. Ball State was tied for the MAC lead entering the ninth game of the season last year when Kosakowski was injured. Without their star quarterback, the Cardinals lost their last three games.

The defense, with eight starters returning from a unit that led the MAC in total defense, remains solid.

Western Michigan

First-year coach Al Molde is hoping the Broncos pick up where they left off last season, when they won their last two games. Before that, however, Western lost its first six.

Molde must rebuild an offense that lost six starters, but 10 starters return on defense. The one loss, however, was a big one—defensive lineman Mark Garalczyk, the MAC's defensive player of the year.

Ohio

The Bobcats were 1-10 a year ago, including an 0-8 mark in the MAC. On the bright side, they're entering 1987 on a one-game winning streak by virtue of their 34-26 win over Northern Illinois in their season finale.

Quarterback Bruce Porter, who led the MAC in total offense, returns, as does fullback Jesse Owens and wide receivers Bobby Cameron, Cyle Feldman, and Jim Geiser.

-Rick Noland

connected on 15 of 19 field goal attempts last season, the Redskins won't lose many close games. Gussman enters 1987 with an MAC-record 80 straight successful PATs.

Miami also led the nation in turnover margin at plus-24 (44 takeaways, 20 give-aways) last season.

Kent State

The Golden Flashes, picked to finish ninth last season, surprised a lot of people with their 5-6, 5-3 record.

With coach of the year Glen Mason and quarterback Patrick Young, last year's freshman of the year, returning, the Flashes will sneak up on no one this season. "You can look at it two ways," Rose said. "Either they were awfully lucky [last year], or they're on the verge of being something special."

With Young and tailback Eric Wilkerson heading an offense that returns 10 starters, Kent may be closer to the latter. The defense returns eight starters, but depth on both sides of the ball is a concern.

To the Flashes' advantage, they play both Toledo and Miami at home.

Eastern Michigan

The Hurons had the MAC title within reach before losing their last game of the

season, 34-20, to Miami. Their 6-5 record, however, was their first winning season since 1977.

Fourteen starters return, including the entire offensive backfield. Tailback Gary Patton, who rushed for 1,058 yards, and quarterback Ron Adams, who passed for another 1,995, will carry huge loads, while linemen Phil Solatka, Mike Burns, and Eric Miller will anchor the defense.

Central Michigan

The Chippewas, 5-5 last year, have not had a losing season in 22 years. Fifty-six lettermen, including 16 starters, will try to extend that streak.

The top returnee is first-team tailback Rodney Stevenson, who rushed for 1,102 yards last season as the Chippewas led the MAC in total offense.

Bowling Green

What's this? The Falcons picked sixth? Isn't this the school that has finished first or second in the MAC five straight years?

Well, yes, but someone's got to finish sixth. With an offensive line that lost four starters, Bowling Green seems the most logical choice.

The Falcons, though, return a solid defense, led by first-team choices Greg Johnson (nose guard) and John Hunter (defensive end).

Chio Valley

Conference

The Defending Co-Champions Lead Another Tight Race

OLKS AROUND THESE PARTS will tell you that some of the best football in Division I-AA is played in the Ohio Valley Conference.

With good reason, too. The OVC has compiled an impressive track record in I-AA competition.

Since 1979 the OVC has had at least two members finish in the top 10 of the final I-AA poll, with the exception of 1983 when Eastern Kentucky finished eighth and Middle Tennessee was 17th. Eastern Kentucky won the I-AA championship in 1979 and 1982. The conference should be even stronger with the addition of its newest member, Tennessee State. The Big Blue, who sports the best winning percentage in the history of I-AA, replaces the University of Akron.

Co-champions Eastern Kentucky and Murray State, along with Middle Tennessee, should fight it out for the conference crown. Tennessee State is ineligible for an OVC championship until 1988 because it is a first-year team, but it can still participate in the I-AA playoffs. The OVC could send as many as four teams to the playoffs.

Eastern Kentucky

At Eastern Kentucky, winning is something that the fans have become accustomed to. That's why the Colonels' 10-3-1 record last season wasn't really a big deal. They expected at least that.

Head coach Roy Kidd should provide more victories with 14 starters returning from last year's team, which made it all the way to the semifinals of the I-AA playoffs. Eight starters return from the I-AA's top rushing defense last season, including three all-conference members: nose guard Eugene Banks, 6-0, 256; tackle Harold Torrens, 6-0, 249; and cor-

nerback Danny Copeland, 6-2 and 208.

On offense, Eastern must find a replacement for graduated quarterback Mike Whitaker. Until it does, Kidd may just instruct his quarterback to hand the ball off to James Crawford (1,288 yards

Predicted Order Of Finish:

- 1. Eastern Kentucky
- 2. Middle Tennessee State
- 3. Murray State
- 4. Youngstown State
- 5. Austin Peav
- 6. Morehead State
- 7. Tennessee Tech
 *Tennessee State

*Ineligible to win championship until 1988

Teams To Watch:

Middle Tennessee State, Murray State, Youngstown State

Players To Watch:

James Crawford, RB, Eastern Kentucky; Marvin Collier, QB, Middle Tennessee; Stanley Howard, WR, Murray State; Mike Lewis, RB, Austin Peay; Jason Proctor, CB, Youngstown State; Bryan Williams, LB. Tennessee State

Games To Watch:

Oct. 10—Murray State at Eastern Kentucky; Oct. 17—Eastern Kentucky at Middle Tennessee; Nov. 14—Murray State at Middle Tennessee

and 13 TDs) or Elroy Harris (1,134 yards and 14 TDs in '85). Harris returns after sitting out last season with academic problems. They should have plenty of holes to run through if all-conference

tackle John Jackson (6-5, 272) continues his all-star performance.

Middle Tennessee State

An early-season slump cost the Blue Raiders a shot at both the OVC crown and the playoffs last year. You can bet that coach Boots Donnelly won't let that happen again.

The Blue Raiders could have one of the most potent offenses in the country if quarterback Marvin Collier is healthy after offseason shoulder surgery. A healthy Collier can beat opponents with his passing, scrambling, and smarts. Without him, the Blue Raiders offense could sputter like it did last season.

Another weapon in the backfield is running back Gerald Anderson, who is big enough to go inside and fast enough to go outside. But the Blue Raiders still must find replacements for four all-conference players (Tony Burse, Cecil Andrews, Dwight Stone, and Roosevelt Colvard). Jack Pittman is the only regular returning to the defensive line, but Sam Boxely (from the defunct Wichita State program) will see plenty of action.

Murray State

Mike Mahoney takes over the head coaching position at Murray State after serving six years on the Racers staff as an assistant under Frank Beamer. And Beamer, now at Virginia Tech, didn't leave his former aide empty-handed.

The Racers will be paced by a trio of horses in the backfield. Missouri natives Rodney Payne and Bill Bird form "The Missouri Mule Train," and this season they will be joined by Willie Cannon, who was the Division I-AA's top freshman runner in '83.

Sophomore Michael Procter will re-

turn at quarterback after passing for 1,508 yards last season. Many of his passes should find the soft hands of all-conference flanker Stanley Howard (24.4 yards per catch).

The Racers lost six starters from the defensive unit. While there are some quality replacements, there is little depth behind them.

Murray must play at Eastern Kentucky and Middle Tennessee, which may hamper its chances of defending its co-OVC championship.

Youngstown State

Last year Youngstown State lost five games by a total of 12 points. But Penguins coach Jim Tressel hopes a year's experience will turn the close games into victories.

Trenton Lykes returns for his senior year at quarterback after passing for more than 2,000 yards last season. Elliot Fedd (35 receptions) is one of the best tight ends in the conference, and Rod Love and Lorenzo Davis form a capable backfield. Love led the Penguins in rushing and Davis scored 10 touchdowns.

The defense will be solid. Jason Price is back after leading the team in interceptions and tackles last year. Mike Peterson and Paul Soltis, a transfer from Ohio State, head the linebacking crew.

Austin Peay

With a few breaks here and there, Austin Peay could have done much better than its 5-6 record last year. This season coach Emory Hale is determined to make the breaks go the Governors' way.

It will help if Mike Lewis (1,032 yards) can break off some runs like he did last season and quarterback Dale Edwards (eight TD passes) can continue to improve. The Govs always seem to have a tough defensive unit. However, the defense lost seven starters, and it will be up to Rodney Bly (safety) and Cameron Towles (tackle) to continue the tradition.

Morehead State

Last season the Golden Eagles got off to a 6-0 start and were ranked as high as second in the I-AA polls. They set a I-AA record after rallying from a 35-3 deficit against Wichita State to win 36-35.

But down the stretch Morehead faded and settled for a 7-4 record, which was still good enough for a school record for wins. Coach Bill Baldridge is hoping his team will be able to finish stronger this time around, but it may be difficult.

The Eagles graduated all-conference quarterback Adrian Breen and All-Amer-

ica lineman Billy Poe, who led an experienced offensive line that was depleted by graduation.

"Our biggest question mark going into the season is our offensive line," Baldridge said.

Leading rusher D.D. Harrison (619 yards) returns, and Chris Swartz and Lance Jensen will battle for time at quarterback. Morehead returns seven starters on defense, including defensive ends Keith Ferrell and Jeff Hester. Jay Koehler should be one of the league's better

favor, too, playing only two conference games on the road.

Tennessee State

Even though Tennessee State University is ineligible for the conference crown, it could very well end up in the I-AA playoffs for the second straight year.

Coach Bill Thomas returns several key members from an offensive unit that produced less than what TSU fans expected last season. This year that ma-



James Crawford leads Eastern Kentucky's potent ground game.

linebackers. The punting is in good hands with all-conference performer Greg Burke (44.0 avg.) returning.

Tennessee Tech

Jim Ragland was the star quarterback at Tennessee Tech (1960-63) when it was one of the powers of the OVC. Now Ragland, in his second year as head coach, is trying to bring the Golden Eagles back into the upper crust of the league.

It's going to be a tough job, as his 0-10 record last year indicates. However, things may get a little better around Cookeville if Ragland's master plan works out. He redshirted six players who would have started last year. Offensively they are: fullback Eddie Haywood (who gained more than 1,000 yards in 1985), quarterback Patrick Pope, tailback Lorenzo Rivers, and flanker Terry Goodloe. On defense, Ragland looks to linebacker Thomas Squires, a preseason All-American last year, and cornerback Mike Brown.

Tech has the schedule going in its

ligned offense has enough talent to come into its own.

Quarterback Stacy Grear, who passed for more than 2,000 yards last season, has a year under his belt and should begin to show more consistency.

He'll have plenty of guns to go to in veteran receivers Steve Studdard, Frank Pillow, and Gary Hockett. In the backfield, Quinton Crawford is explosive both running and catching the football. He had four plays go for more than 70 yards last year. But the key to the offense will be how well the line can perform.

The defense, ranked No. 1 in I-AA last year, lost All-American Onzy Elam to graduation, along with the entire defensive line.

But linebacker Bryan Williams could become the next All-American. He heads a veteran linebacking crew that includes Roderick Reed and Danny Taylor. The Big Blue hopes that Thaddeus Howard and Chris Simms will do the job on the defensive line.

-Rickey Hampton

Big 10

Conference

It's Ohio State's Turn, But You-Know-Who Will Be Tough

RED AKERS IS RIDING OUT OF the Southwest, ready to introduce his offense, Texas style, into the Big 10 this season as the new coach at Purdue. He may have picked the right year.

The former University of Texas coach is going to find life in the Big 10 in 1987 quite a bit different from what he and everyone else has seen lately.

Akers' preference for a Wishbone, run-oriented attack would normally have been out of place in the Big 10, which recently has become a quarter-back's league. But this is the year of the rusher in the conference.

Unfortunately, Akers didn't bring some of those oversized Texas running backs like Earl Campbell with him to West Lafayette. He may be looking up at the league's other stellar runners from the conference cellar.

It's been more than a decade since the three-yards-and-a-cloud-of-dust philosophy of the late Woody Hayes ruled the Midwest.

In the 1980s it was essential that teams have a throwing quarterback. The teams that did have one survived, went to bowl games, and wound up in the top 20. Those who didn't found themselves at the bottom end of the Big 10.

But, to repeat, things are shifting this year in the Big 10, which may give Akers reason for some optimism.

The top quarterbacks have graduated while nine of the top 10 rushers have returned

"I can tell you about the respect we had for the Big 10 when I was in Texas," Akers said. "It's a tremendous conference, probably the best in the country. They built that reputation with great quarterbacks and defense." For a time—about a week to be exact—Akers looked like he had the gunslinger capable of bringing Purdue back to the forefront of the conference while he installed his ground attack.

Predicted Order Of Finish:

- 1. Ohio State
- 2. Michigan
- 3. Iowa
- 4. Michigan State
- 5. Minnesota
- 6. Northwestern
- 7. Illinois
- 8. Indiana
- 9. Wisconsin
- 10. Purdue

Players To Watch:

Cris Carter, WR, Ohio State; Chris Spielman, LB, Ohio State; Lorenzo White, RB, Michigan State; Rick Bayless, RB, Iowa; Jamie Morris, RB, Michigan; Doug Mallory, DB, Michigan; Mike Greenfield, QB, Northwestern

Teams To Watch:

Michigan State, Northwestern

Games To Watch:

Oct. 3—Michigan State at Iowa; Oct. 17—Iowa at Michigan; Oct. 31—Michigan State at Ohio State; Nov. 14—Iowa at Ohio State; Nov. 21—Ohio State at Michigan

Jeff George, the No. 1 recruited player in the country two years ago, was ready to blossom as a Boilermaker QB.

Trouble was, George and his family saw game films of Akers' Wishbone running attack. What they envisioned was George handing off time after time instead of throwing bombs. The result: George went packing to Miami, Fla.

"It's a bit unfair to say all we were going to do is run," Akers responded. "Look at what we did at Texas. We ran the ball only about 60 percent of the time. You can't win running the ball every down. We know that."

But, the Big 10 race has a familiar ring again this year. Michigan and Ohio State, which once were known as the "big two" of the league, have again been joined by Iowa to form the "big three."

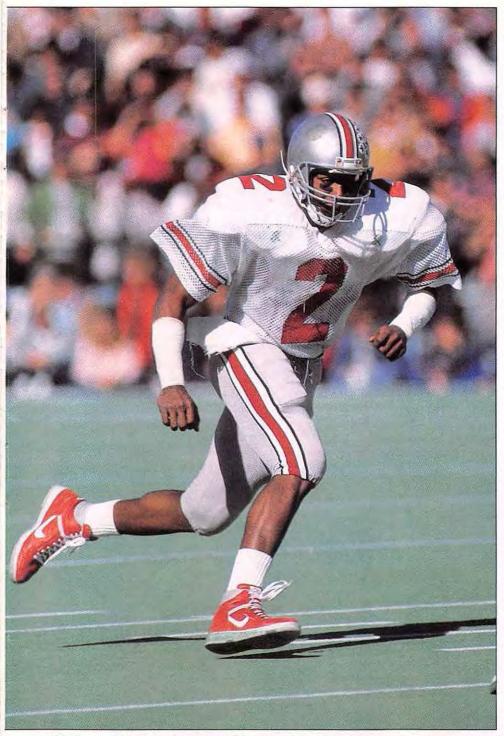
Ohio State

Ohio State is searching to replace veteran quarterback Jim Karsatos. Punter Tom Tupa figures to be the Bucks' signal-caller this year, and he'll have perhaps the nation's best receiver to throw to in Cris Carter, who last year caught 69 passes for 1,127 yards.

The Buckeyes are loaded with talented rushers. Vince Workman, who scored seven touchdowns and fell 15 yards shy of 1,000 yards as a sophomore, is the latest in a line of sturdy, hard-to-tackle backs in coach Earle Bruce's backfield. In addition, Jim Bryant comes back to form the best 1-2 rushing attack in the Big 10. Bryant gained 653 yards, including 145 against Utah, as a freshman. The only question mark on offense is whether the offensive line will be up to the task of providing holes for the OSU runners.

On defense, Bruce may have the best player in the league in Chris Spielman. The senior linebacker averaged 16 tackles per game last year.

"What Chris Spielman means to this football team can't be measured," Bruce said. "He seems to be in on every tackle. He is a leader out there."



OSU receiver Cris Carter strikes fear into defensemen's hearts.

If the Buckeyes can find a reliable quarterback, there should be joy in Columbus all year. Ohio State got off to an 0-2 start last year and barely got past Colorado before catching fire.

Things should be better early for Bruce's club. The Bucks open at home against West Virginia and Oregon, which should allow OSU to get off to a fast start.

In addition, OSU hosts Iowa before traveling to Michigan on November 21, for what should once again be the Big 10 title game.

Michigan

It's hard to feel sorry for Michigan coach Bo Schembechler, the winningest coach in the conference.

The Wolverines lose dangerous quarterback Jim Harbaugh. Offensive guard Mike Hammerstein also has graduated. The stigma of yet another Rose Bowl disappointment remains with this club after a stellar 11-2 campaign that also saw them share the Big 10 title with Ohio State.

"Harbaugh was deserving of Heisman Trophy consideration, especially considering what he did for us in 1986," Schembechler said. "You don't replace him just like that."

But the Wolverines are again loaded. Jamie Morris, brother of the Giants' Joe, will anchor a solid running attack and the vaunted Wolverine defense has defensive tackle Mark Messner, safety Doug Mallory, and cornerback Erik Campbell returning; all are being mentioned for preseason All-America honors.

Chris Zurbrugg, who saw action two years ago, is in a three-way battle at quarterback with Michael Taylor and Demetrius Brown. Because Zurbrugg has experience, he may be the favorite.

"You could line up with any one of the three and do pretty well," Schembechler said.

Morris will be the key to the offense. A durable runner who gained 1,039 yards last year, the senior is also a talented pass receiver.

The kicking game, always rated by Schembechler as the key to winning big games, is intact. Placekicker Mike Gillette and punter Monte Robbins return.

lowa

The Hawkeyes were criticized for playing a soft non-conference schedule last year. But had it not been for injuries, coach Hayden Fry's club could have been the league's sacrificial lamb on New Year's Day in Pasadena.

"Listen, I played the Penn States and Nebraskas and got all beat up by the time we got into the Big 10 season," Fry argued. "What sense did that make?"

Quarterback Marc Vlasic has graduated, but that has cleared the way for last year's back-up, Tom Poholsky, to develop. The son of a former St. Louis Cardinals pitcher, Poholsky returns to lead the Hawkeye offense. Poholsky, a sophomore, had enough attempts to be sixth in the league in passing last year.

Iowa returns the league's No. 2 rusher, Rick Bayless, and has Kevin Harmon, David Hudson, and Grant Goodman back. Harmon got hurt early last year and wasn't much of a factor.

The Hawkeyes should also be strong defensively again. Dave Haight anchors a strong line, and they have veteran linebackers returning.

The schedule works against the Hawkeyes, however. Iowa must play both Michigan and Ohio State on the road, which may make a run at the title difficult.

Michigan State

It was to have all worked out so well for the Spartans last year. Michigan State was ready to crack the upper crust of the Big 10 and sneak in as the league champion. Lorenzo White was to lead the nation in rushing, capture the Heisman Trophy, and celebrate with a Rose Bowl victory on New Year's Day.

But White was hobbled with leg problems for most of the year and dropped to seventh in the league in rushing with 70 yards per game. And along with White's statistics fell the Spartans. MSU dropped to 6-5, lost at Northwestern, and didn't even receive a bowl bid.

"Lorenzo is the heart of this team. Try as he did, he just couldn't perform at 100 percent," said coach George Perles. "It hurt to see someone give as much as he did."

White is back for a senior season and how far he goes will determine how far Michigan State goes. If healthy, White is the premier runner in the league, if not the country.

But unlike previous years, MSU doesn't have to rely solely on White. Craig Johnson emerged as a solid runner in White's absence last year.

The Spartans, who have 17 returning starters, are also a threat to be a strong passing team. Dave Yarema, No. 2 in the

Big 10

league in passing last year, is gone. But Bobby McAllister, who replaced the injured Yarema two years ago, comes back to take the helm as a junior. And he has talented receiver Andre Rison as a deep threat.

MSU's defense was second in the league last year. All-league Shane Bullough has graduated, but his leadership role should be handled by outside linebacker Tim Moore, defensive tackle Mark Nichols, or defensive end John Budde. Nichols had eight sacks last year, tops on the club.

Injuries have hurt the Spartans in the past. If MSU can survive its non-conference schedule of USC, Notre Dame, and Florida State, this may be the year the Spartans become the dark-horse winner.

Minnesota

If this is the year of the running back in the Big 10, Minnesota's offense can look to last year's premier freshman runner in the country—Darrell Thompson—to lead it again this season.

Thompson exploded out of nowhere

to lead the conference in rushing last year; he also set the school single-season rushing record with 1,240 yards. His running helped the Golden Gophers post a 6-6 record and a surprising tie for third in the conference.

Along with Thompson, quarterback Rickey Foggie returns for coach John Gutekunst's offense. The two mean the Gophers will have one of the best rushing attacks in the league. Ed Penn has moved from tailback to fullback in the Gopher backfield.

Gutekunst has promised a switch to a Pro-I attack to take advantage of Foggie and Thompson.

But the problems for Minnesota's bid for a second straight surprise finish are with the defense. Nine seniors have left and Minnesota has a dozen redshirt freshmen to try to fill the holes. Only one starter, Steve Franklin, returns from last year's Liberty Bowl squad. Minnesota must also rebuild its defensive line.

Kicking will be solid with the return of Chip Lohmiller, who was 13 of 18 in field goal tries last year, including a schoolrecord 62-yarder against Iowa.

Northwestern

Francis Peay had had enough. Frus-



Jamie Morris, like older brother Joe, is short (5-7), powerful, and oh so dangerous.

trated with the lack of progress by the administration in moving the football program along, Peay announced at midseason he wouldn't apply for the head coaching job next year.

But Peay was persuaded by athletic director Doug Single to reconsider his position. After wins over Michigan State and Illinois to end the season, Peay not only had secured a five-year contract, but had Wildcat fans thinking 1987 may be the year the club makes a run at a .500 finish.

"Last year we established some degree of potential," Peay said. "We must now identify and correct our weaknesses and decide what approach will make optimum use of the talent available."

For a change, Northwestern has some solid returning talent that may make the Wildcats a winner.

While the rest of the league is looking toward its running backs, Northwestern has the top returning passer in the conference in senior Mike Greenfield. In addition, Peay has an experienced backfield with Greg Bradshaw and Stanley Davenport.

Eight starters return on defense, long the Achilles' heel of Northwestern.

"We're going to try to create a competitive situation at every position," Peay said. "We will return to the basics before implementing variations."

Illinois

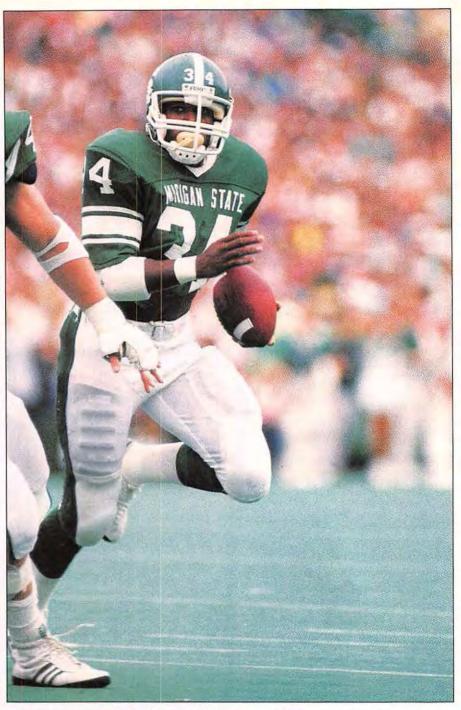
Illinois' program seems to make more news off the field than on. The Illini are either in the courts battling for the eligibility of a quarterback or announcing some disciplinary action against a player.

Illinois coach Mike White, often rumored to be the next coach at some pro team, would like to see the focus return back to the field.

He does have a rarity in the league this year—some experience at quarterback. Quarterback Brian Menkhausen returns after sharing duties with Shane Lamb last year.

White, who has long favored the prostyle passing attack, may be out of step this year. Keith Jones was second in the league in all-purpose running last year, but the Illini don't figure to change gears and forgo the pass. Two junior college running backs and redshirt Lynn McClellan give the Illini more depth behind Menkhausen.

Illinois linebacker Steve Glasson and defensive back Ed White combined to average 22 tackles a game last year. White also has experience in other key defensive players returning from last year's 4-7 squad. But the Illini gave up an average



After a season of injuries, MSU's Lorenzo White eyes the Heisman.

of 27 points per game last year, next to last in the Big 10, and allowed 183 yards per game on the ground.

With the improved rushing attack in the conference this year, the Illini defense must plug up some holes if it is to make a run at the first division.

Indiana

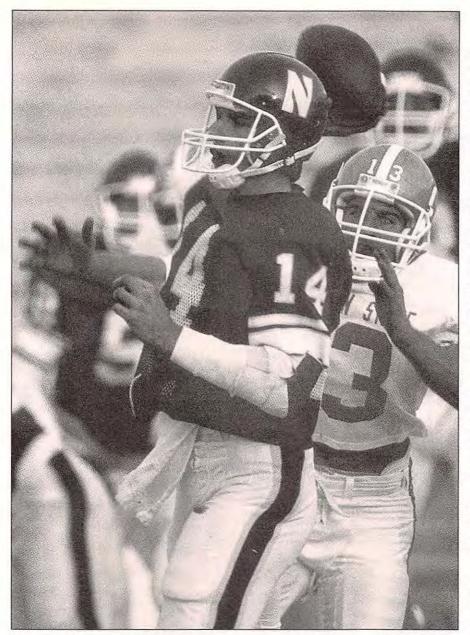
For the past two years, Indiana has gotten off to impressive 4-0 starts under Bill Mallory.

In 1985 the club folded in the second half, losing seven straight. Last year the Hoosiers stumbled but didn't collapse. Mallory's club went 6-6, including a trip

to the All-American Bowl, and for a time, cooled Hoosier hysteria about Bob Knight and his basketball club.

Like Minnesota, Indiana got strength a year ago from a freshman running back named Thompson. Anthony Thompson wound up with 679 yards and five TDs after starting the year on the bench. As the league's third-leading rusher, he will be the anchor as Mallory looks for a second successive winning season. Thompson had a knee injury during the spring, but Mallory said "there's no question he'll be back 100 percent.

"He was a big surprise for us," Mallory added. "He didn't perform like a fresh-



QB Mike Greenfield will key another solid season at Northwestern.

man from the moment he became a starter."

Dave Schnell, Brian DeWitz, and Dave Kramme—who all shared time at quarterback last year—return. Kramme may start the season No. 1, but Mallory may again be content to alternate his signal-callers in an attempt to get some balance on offense.

The Hoosiers passed for only three TDs last year and figure to rely heavily on the rushing talents of Thompson this season. Indiana was eighth in offense in the league last year, and had it not been for Mallory's experienced defensive unit, the Hoosiers might have had another second-half collapse.

Mallory has some holes to fill on defense. His secondary is inexperienced, but he does have talented linebacker Van Waiters back. Indiana has a shot at starting off well again this year with home games against Rice and Missouri and a road date at Kentucky. But the Hoosiers must play at Ohio State, Michigan State, and Iowa. Thompson should be a busy fellow again this year.

Wisconsin

Former Tulsa coach Don Morton is Wisconsin's 26th coach, replacing Jim Hilles. Like Northwestern's Peay, Hilles worked under an interim tag all last season. Hilles had replaced former coach Dave McClain, who died suddenly from a heart attack in April of 1986.

Morton, 70-24 at Tulsa and North Dakota State, faces a full-scale rebuilding job at Madison. He plans to install the Veer offense to try to shake up the Badgers attack. While other schools are boasting of their returning rushers, Wisconsin has lost two of its best in fullback Joe Armentrout and tailback Larry Emery. Bud Keyes, who alternated with injury-prone Mike Howard, is back at quarterback, but he lacks the weapons to put together an effective passing game.

Graduation also hit the Badgers hard, particularly on defense.

Cornerback Nate Odomes, safety Keith Browning, cornerback Bobby Taylor, and the entire starting defensive line are all gone. Fullback Andy Hartlieb has been moved to linebacker to try to fill some gaps on the defensive side.

The Badgers have a capable punter in Scott Cepicky (43 yards per punt last year) and placekicker Todd Gregoire. The two may have busy seasons, especially Cepicky, if the Badgers don't get much production from their untested underclassmen.

At least the schedule favors the rebuilding. Wisconsin opens with three straight home games—Hawaii, Utah, and Ball State. If nothing else, the games could be confidence-builders for a team in transition in Madison.

Purdue

With Jeff George gone, Doug Downing inherits the quarterback role over Jeff Huber. He should learn to hand off fairly soon following Akers' change from Leon Burtnett's pro-style passing attack.

James Medlock could be part of a Wishbone attack in Akers' system. But Medlock rushed for only 46 yards per game, tops on the club, for a Purdue attack that was dead last in the league in offense.

Purdue averaged only 67 yards per game on the ground last year during George's first year. The offense generated only 10 TDs last year in the Big 10.

While Akers has some experienced defensive starters returning, the unit was nothing to shout about last year. Purdue was last in rushing defense, passing defense, scoring defense, and total defense. The Boilermakers surrendered 31 touchdowns in eight Big 10 games.

Akers may be hard-pressed to duplicate last year's 3-8 mark. Purdue must open at Washington and host Notre Dame before the Big 10 season gets underway.

Akers likely will turn it around at Purdue, but it may take some time. Boilermaker fans will have to be patient.

-Randy Minkoff

1986 NCAA Division I-A Statistical Leaders

----- Individual Statistical Leaders

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1986 Major College Final Standings

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urdue	. 4	0	Ü	3	0	U	Oregon State	9
IV	Y LE	AGU	E				MAJOR INDEPENDENTS	
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ale	.2	5	0	3	7	0	Holy Cross 10 1 0 Rutgers 5 5 1 Virginia Tech 9	2
	0	5	Õ	2	8	Ö	Louisville 3 8 0 South Carolina 3 6 2 West Virginia 4	7
rinceton								
Princeton		7	0	õ	10	0	Memphis State 1 10 0 Southern Mississippi 6 5 0 Wichita State 3	В

1987 NCAA Major College Schedules

AF	BILENE CHRISTIA	V	Sep 12		3-23	Oct 10	at Texas Tech	7-17	Oct 24	Cent. Michigan	22-43
	Coach: John Payne		Sep 19	Florida	21-7	Oct 17	Texas	21-14	Oct 31	No. Illinois	20-10
	1986 Record: 7-3-0		Sep 26	at Vanderbilt	42-10	Oct 24	Houston		Nov 7	at West. Michigan	24-10
Sep 12	at Northern Colorado	27-20	Oct 3	SW Louisiana	07.0	Oct 31	at Rice	45-14	Nov 14	Ohio	30-9
Sep 19	Tennessee Tech		Oct 10	at Memphis St.	37-0	Nov 7	Baylor	14-29	Nov 21	at Indiana St.	16-3
Sep 26	Camron St.@		Oct 17	Tennessee	56-28	Nov 14	at Texas A&M	14-10		BAYLOR	
Oct 10	Eastern New Mexico		Oct 31	Mississippi St.	38-3	Nov 28	New Mexico at Hawaii	42-11		Coach: Grant Teaff	
Oct 17	Central St.	28-41	Nov 7	at LSU	10-14 28-10	Dec 5	at Hawaii			1986 Record: 9-3-0	
Oct 24	at Angelo St.	45-13	Nov 14 Nov 28	at Notre Dame Auburn	17-21		ARMY		Sep 5	Louisiana Tech	38-7
Oct 31	Texas Lutheran		NOV 20	Aubum	17-21		Coach: Jim Young		Sep 12	at Missouri	00.1
Nov 7	at East Texas St.	20-12		ARIZONA			1986 Record: 6-5-0		Sep 19	at UNLV	
Nov 14	Texas A&I	19-36				Sep 12	Holy Cross	14-17	Sep 26	Texas Tech	45-14
Nov 21	at West Texas St.	28-32		Coach: Dick Tomey		Sep 19	at Kansas St.	14-17	Oct 3	at Houston	27-13
@ Arling	gton, Texas		0	1986 Record: 9-3-0		Sep 26	Citadel		Oct 10	SW Texas St.	
	AKRON		Sep 12	lowa		Oct 3	Wake Forest	14-49	Oct 17	Texas A&M	30-31
	Coach: Gerry Faust		Sep 19	New Mexico	05.00	Oct 10	at Boston Coll.	20-27	Oct 24	TCU	28-17
	1986 Record: 7-4-0		Sep 26 Oct 3	at UCLA Bowling Green	25-32	Oct 17	Colgate	147.030	Nov 7	at Arkansas	29-14
Sep 5	at Western Michigan		Oct 10	at California	33-16	Oct 24	Rutgers	7-35	Nov 14	Rice	23-17
Sep 12	Kent St.	17-7	Oct 17	Oregon St.	23-12	Oct 31	Temple		Nov 21	at Texas	18-13
Sep 19	Eastern Michigan	21-24	Oct 24	at Washington St.	31-6	Nov 7	at Air Force	21-11		BOISE STATE	
Sep 24			Oct 31	at Stanford	24-29	Nov 14	Lafayette	56-48		Coach: Skip Hall	
Oct 3	Eastern Illinois		Nov 7	Washington	24 23	Dec 5	Navy @	27-7		1986 Record: 5-6-0	
Oct 10	at Oregon St.		Nov 14	at USC	13-20	@ Phila	delphia		Sep 5	Delaware St.	
Oct 17	Delaware St.		Nov 28	at Arizona St.	34-17		AUBURN		Sep 12	Northridge	
Oct 24	at Louisville		offer he	ED 10/4031/41/E-0	ALC: NO				Sep 26	at Weber St.	23-13
Oct 31	Nicholls St.			ARIZONA STATE			Coach: Pat Dye		Oct 3	Montana St.	31-14
Nov 14	at Northern Illinois Youngstown St.	39-40		Coach: John Cooper			1986 Record: 10-2-0		Oct 10	East. Washington	19-21
1404 21	the contract of the contract o	39-40		1986 Record: 10-1-1		Sep 5 Sep 12	Texas		Oct 17	at Montana	31-0
	AIR FORCE		Sep 12	at Illinois		Sep 26	Kansas at Tennessee	34-8	Oct 24	Idaho St.	6-25
C	coach: Fisher DeBerry		Sep 19	Pacific		Oct 3	at N. Carolina	34-0	Oct 31	Utah	
	1986 Record: 6-5-0		Sep 26	Nebraska		Oct 10	Vanderbilt	31-9	Nov 7	at Nevada-Reno	16-21
Sep 5	at Wyoming	17-23	Oct 3	UTEP		Oct 17	at Georgia Tech	31-10	Nov 14	No. Arizona	14-17
Sep 12			Oct 10	at Washington	34-21	Oct 24	Mississippi St.	35-6	Nov 21	at Idaho	14-21
Sep 19	San Diego St.	22-10	Oct 17	Washington St.	21-21	Oct 31	Florida	17-18	В	OSTON COLLEG	E
Sep 26	at Colorado St.	24-7	Oct 24	at Oregon St.		Nov 7	Florida St.	***		Coach: Jack Bicknell	
Oct 3	Utah	45-35	Oct 31	UCLA	16-9	Nov 14	at Georgia	16-20		1986 Record: 9-3-0	
Oct 10	at Navy	40-6	Nov 7	Oregon	37-17	Nov 28	at Alabama	21-17	Sep 5	TCU	
Oct 17	Notre Dame	3-31	Nov 14	at California	49-0				Sep 12	Temple	38-29
Oct 24 Oct 31	UTEP at BYU	23-21	Nov 28	Arizona	17-34		BALL STATE		Sep 19	at USC	
Nov 7		3-23					Coach: Paul Schudel		Sep 26	Penn St.	14-26
Nov 14	Army at New Mexico	11-21		ARKANSAS			1986 Record: 6-5-0		Oct 3	at Pittsburgh	
Nov 21	at Hawaii	24-16		Coach: Ken Hatfield		Sep 12	at Toledo	27-10	Oct 10	Army	27-20
1104 51	And the second s	24-10		1986 Record: 9-3-0		Sep 19	Bowling Green	17-20	Oct 17	at Rutgers	9-11
	ALABAMA		Sep 12	at Mississippi	21-0	Sep 26	at Wisconsin		Oct 24	W. Virginia	19-10
	Coach: Bill Curry		Sep 19	Tulsa	34-17	Oct 3	at Miami, O.	7-45	Oct 31	Tennessee	
Sep 5	Coach: Bill Curry 1986 Record: 10-3-0 So. Mississippi	31-17			34-17	Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 17	at Miami, O. Kent State at East. Michigan	7-45 26-17 7-14	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	Tennessee at Notre Dame at Syracuse	27-9

19-42

Nov 14

at So. Mississippi

21-23

Sep 19

at Penn St.

17-23

Nov 21

New Hampshire

Oct 3 Marshall Oct 10 East. Tennessee St. Oct 17 Appalachian St. Oct 31 Davidson	17-17 59-0	IDAHO Coach: Keith Gilbertsor 1986 Record: 8-3-0 Sep 5 Mankato St.	1	Oct 10 at Wisconsin Oct 17 at Michigan Oct 24 Purdue Oct 31 Indiana	17-6 17-20 42-14	LONG BEACH STATE Coach: Larry Reisbig 1986 Record: 6-5-0 Sep 5 Montana St.	()
Nov 7 VMI Nov 14 at Florida St. Nov 21 at Citadel	52-6 37-14	Sep 12 Cent. Michigan Sep 19 at Portland St. Sep 26 at No. Arizona Oct 3 at Idaho St. Oct 10 Montana	21-34 42-10 0-24 38-26 38-31	Nov 7 at Northwestern Nov 14 at Ohio St. Nov 21 Minnesota @ East Rutherford, N.J.	27-20 10-31 30-27	Sep 12 Weber St. Sep 19 at Fullerton St. Sep 26 at Michigan Oct 1 at Fresno St. Oct 10 at Pacific	30-20 12-25 38-21
Coach: Vince Dooley 1986 Record: 8-4-0 Sep 5 Virginia Sep 12 Oregon St. Sep 19 at Clemson Sep 26 S. Carolina	28-31 31-26	Oct 17 Nevada-Reno Oct 24 East. Washington Oct 31 at Weber St. Nov 7 at Montana St. Nov 21 Boise St.	13-17 27-10 31-17 44-17 21-14	Coach: Jim Walden 1986 Record: 6-5-0 Sep 12 at Tulane Sep 19 lowa Sep 26 at Wyoming	7-43 21-10	Oct 24 at San Diego Nov 7 at UNLV Nov 14 San Jose St. Nov 21 Utah St.	8-31 14-38 14-3
Oct 3 at Mississippi Oct 10 LSU Oct 17 at Vanderbilt Oct 24 Kentucky Nov 1 Florida @ Nov 14 Auburn Nov 28 at Georgia Tech	14-10 14-23 38-16 31-9 19-31 20-16 31-24	IDAHO STATE Coach: Jim Koetter 1986 Record: 2-9-0 Sep 12 Texas A&I Sep 19 at East. Washington Sep 26 at Utah Oct 3 Idaho	7-34 26-38	Oct 3 Oklahoma Oct 10 No. lowa Oct 17 Missouri Oct 24 at Kansas Oct 31 Colorado Nov 7 at Nebraska Nov 14 Kansas St.	0-38 37-14 13-10 3-31 14-35 48-19	LOUISIANA STATE Coach: Mike Archer 1986 Record: 9-3-0 Sep 5 at Texas A&M Sep 12 Fullerton St. Sep 19 Rice Sep 26 Ohio St.	35-17
@ Jacksonville, Florida GEORGIA TECH Coach: Bobby Ross 1986 Record: 5-5-1		Oct 10 Portland St. Oct 17 No. Arizona Oct 24 at Boise St. Oct 31 at Nevada-Reno Nov 7 at Montana Nov 14 Montana St.	17-31 25-6 14-44 13-57 27-50	Nov 21 at Oklahoma St. KANSAS Coach: Bob Valesente 1986 Record: 3-8-0 Sep 12 at Auburn	14-21	Oct 3 Florida Oct 10 at Georgia Oct 17 Kentucky Oct 31 at Mississippi	28-17 23-14 25-16 19-21 14-10 47-0
Sep 12 Citadel Sep 19 N. Carolina Sep 26 at Clemson Oct 3 at N. Carolina St. Oct 10 Indiana St. Oct 17 Auburn Oct 24 at Tennessee	20-21 3-27 59-21 10-31	Nov 21 Weber St. ILLINOIS Coach: Mike White 1986 Record: 4-7-0	33-63	Sep 19 Kent St. Sep 26 Louisiana Tech Oct 3 So. Illinois Oct 10 at Nebraska Oct 17 at Colorado Oct 24 Iowa St.	35-23 0-70 10-17 10-13	LOUISVILLE Coach: Howard Schnellenber 1986 Record: 3-8-0	
Oct 24 at Tennessee Oct 31 at Duke Nov 7 Virginia Nov 21 Wake Forest Nov 28 Georgia	14-13 34-6 28-14 21-24 24-31	Sep 5 at N. Carolina Sep 12 Arizona St. Sep 19 E. Carolina Oct 3 Ohio St. Oct 10 at Purdue Oct 17 Wisconsin	0-14 34-27 9-15	Oct 31 Oklahoma Nov 7 at Kansas St. Nov 14 Oklahoma St. Nov 21 at Missouri	3-64 12-29 6-24 0-48	Sep 12 Cincinnati Sep 19 at Purdue Sep 26 Murray St. Oct 3 So. Mississippi Oct 10 Marshall	23-12 17-24 16-31
Coach: Joseph Restic 1986 Record: 3-7-0 Sep 19 at Columbia Sep 26 Northeastern	34-0	Oct 24 at Michigan St. Oct 31 Minnesota Nov 7 at Indiana Nov 14 Michigan Nov 21 at Northwestern	21-29 21-16 13-69 18-23	KANSAS STATE Coach; Stan Parrish 1986 Record: 2-9-0 Sep 5 Sep 19 Army Sep 26 at lowa		Oct 24 Akron Oct 31 at Tulsa Nov 7 at Tennessee	18-54 34-8
Oct 3 Bucknell Oct 10 at Cornell Oct 17 Dartmouth Oct 24 Princeton Oct 31 at Brown Nov 7 at Holy Cross Nov 14 Pennsylvania Nov 21 at Yale	0-3 42-26 3-14 19-31 0-41 10-17 24-17	ILLINOIS STATE Coach: Bob Otolski 1986 Record: 5-5-0 Sep 12 West. Michigan Sep 19 at East. Illinois Sep 26 at So. Illinois Oct 3 West. Illinois Oct 17 at East. Washington	23-20 3-20 17-7	Oct 3 Tulsa Oct 10 at Missouri Oct 17 Oklahoma Oct 24 at Nebraska Oct 31 at Oklahoma St. Nov 7 Kansas Nov 14 at Iowa St. Nov 21 Colorado	6-17 10-56 0-38 3-23 29-12 19-48 3-49	Sep 12 at Massachusetts Sep 19 at Rhode Island	33-7 13-23 34-14 23-26
HAWAII Coach: Bob Wagner 1986 Record: 7-5-0 Sep 5 Fullerton St. Sep 12 at Wisconsin Seo 26 at UTEP	26-15 20-17 31-21	Oct 24 Indiana St. Oct 31 at SW Missouri St. Nov 7 No. Michigan Nov 14 NW Missouri St. Nov 21 at No. Iowa	38-28 16-17 35-14 13-22	KENT STATE Coach: Glen O. Mason 1986 Record: 5-6-0 Sep 12 at Akron Sep 19 at Kansas	7-17	Oct 10 at Northeastern Oct 17 Richmond Oct 24 Connecticut Oct 31 at Delaware	38-21 26-11 19-35 31-34 14-13
Oct 3 Yale Oct 10 at New Mexico Oct 17 Utah Oct 31 BYU Nov 7 Colorado St. Nov 14 San Diego St. Nov 21 Air Force Nov 28 Wyoming Dec 5 Arkansas	27-10 33-13 3-10 7-31 5-35 16-24 35-19	INDIANA Coach: Bill Mallory 1986 Record: 6-6-0 Sep 12 Rice Sep 19 at Kentucky Sep 26 Missouri Oct 3 Northwestern Oct 10 at Ohio St. Oct 17 at Minnesota Oct 24 Michigan	41-24 24-7 22-24 17-19 14-38	Sep 26 East. Michigan Oct 3 at Cent. Michigan Oct 10 Uses. Michigan Oct 21 West. Michigan Oct 24 at Ohio Oct 31 Toledo Nov 7 at Bowling Green Nov 14 Miami, O. Nov 21 at Pittsburgh	20-16 33-30 17-26 7-27 17-13 18-16 15-31 24-23	Sep 19 W. Virginia Sep 26 at N. Carolina St. Oct 10 at Miami, Fla.	42-10 24-3 16-28 21-27
HOLY CROSS Coach: Mark Duffner 1986 Record: 10-1-0 Sep 12 at Army Sep 19 Lafayette	17-14 38-14	Oct 31 at Iowa Nov 7 Illinois Nov 14 at Michigan St. Nov 21 Purdue	16-21 17-14 15-17	KENTUCKY Coach: Jerry Claiborne 1986 Record: 5-5-1 Sep 12 Utah St. Sep 19 Indiana Sep 26 at Rutgers	16-16	Oct 31 N. Carolina Nov 7 Penn St. @ Nov 14 at Clemson	27-19 30-32 15-17 17-17 35-21
Sep 26 at Léhigh Oct 3 Colgate Oct 10 at Dartmouth Oct 17 at Bucknell Oct 24 Brown Oct 31 at Massachusetts Nov 7 Harvard Nov 14 William & Mary	17-14 16-12 48-7 17-10 22-7 41-7 41-0 31-7	Coach: Dennis Raetz 1986 Record: 3-8-0 Sep 5 Salem Sep 12 Boston U. Sep 19 at West. Illinois Sep 26 No. lowa Oct 3 at SW Missouri St. Oct 10 at Georgia Tech	10-45 14-10	Oct 3 Ohio Oct 10 Mississsippi Oct 17 at LSU Oct 24 at Georgia Oct 31 Virginia Tech Nov 7 at Vanderbilt Nov 14 at Florida Nov 21 Tennessee	13-33 16-25 9-31 15-17 34-22 10-3 9-28	Sep 19 at Florida St. Oct 3 at Mississippi St.	6-28 22-21
HOUSTON Coach: Jack Pardee 1986 Record: 1-10-0 Sep 12 Oklahoma St. Sep 26 Sam Houston St. Oct 3 Baylor	28-12 13-27	Oct 17 at East, Illinois Oct 24 at Illinois St. Oct 31 So. Illinois Nov 7 Cincinnati @ Nov 21 Ball St. @ @ Indianapolis	14-31 28-38 14-16 14-46 3-16	LAFAYETTE Coach: Bill Russo 1986 Record: 6-5-0 Sep 12 Kutztown St. Sep 19 at Holy Cross Sep 26 Columbia	17-6 14-38 26-21		0-37 6-15 9-14 10-30 10-26 8-34
Oct 10 at Texas A&M Oct 17 at Wyoming Oct 24 at Arkansas Oct 31 at TCU Nov 7 Texas Nov 14 at Temple Nov 21 Texas Tech Nov 28 at Rice	7-19 13-30 14-30 10-30 7-34 13-14	Coach: Hayden Fry 1986 Record: 9-3-0 Aug 30 Tennessee@ Sep 12 at Arizona Sep 19 at lowa St. Sep 26 Kansas St. Oct 3 Michigan St.	43-7 24-21	Oct 3 Cornell Oct 10 Bucknell Oct 17 Davidson Oct 24 at New Hampshire Oct 31 Colgate Nov 7 Pennsylvania Nov 14 at Army Nov 21 at Lehigh	33-22 52-34 51-14 16-20 7-42 14-42 48-56 28-23	Sep 19 S. Carolina Sep 26 at Arkansas	23-15 34-14 41-23

1987 NCAA Major College Sc	hedules—	Miami, Fla. continued					
Oct 10 Maryland Oct 24 at Cincinnati Oct 31 at E. Carolina	45-13 36-10	Nov 21 Mississippi @ @ Jackson, Miss.	3-24	Oct 3 Nevada-Reno Oct 10 Utah St. Oct 17 at Fullerton St.	6-7 40-23	Nov 14 at Duke Nov 21 Virginia	29-15 16-20
Nov 7 Miami, O. Nov 14 Virginia Tech Nov 21 Toledo		MISSOURI Coach: Robert Widenho 1986 Record: 3-8-0	fer	Oct 24 at San Jose St. Oct 31 at Fresno St. Nov 7 Long Beach St.	20-23 7-36 31-8	NORTH TEXAS STAT Coach: Corky Nelson 1986 Record: 6-4-0	E
Nov 28 Notre Dame MIAMI, OHIO Coach: Tim Rose		Sep 12 Baylor Sep 19 Northwestern Sep 26 at Indiana Oct 3 Syracuse	24-41 9-41	Nov 14 at New Mexico St. Nov 21 Pacific Nov 28 No. Illinois	58-42 15-21	Sep 5 at Oklahoma Sep 12 SW Texas St. Sep 19 at NW Louisiana Sep 26 at McNeese St.	7-0 24-3 21-13
1986 Record: 8-4-0 Sep 5 at Cent. Michigan Sep 12 East. Ichigan	59-21 34-20	Oct 10 Kent St. Oct 17 at lowa St. Oct 24 Oklahoma St. Oct 31 Nebraska	14-37 6-10 17-48	NEVADA-RENO Coach: Chris Ault 1986 Record: 13-1-0		Oct 10 Sam Houston St. Oct 17 at TCU Oct 31 at Stephen F. Austin	24-20
Sep 19 at Syracuse Sep 26 at Cincinnati Oct 3 Ball St. Oct 10 at West. Michigan	38-45 45-7 17-27	Nov 7 Colorado Nov 14 at Oklahoma Nov 21 Kansas	12-17 0-77 48-0	Sep 12 at East. Washington Sep 19 California-Davis Sep 26 at Montana Oct 3 at UNLV	56-22 51-17	Nov 7 at Arkansas St. Nov 14 at NE Louisiana Nov 21 Louisiana Tech	21-43 28-20 10-17
Oct 17 Ohio Oct 24 at Toledo Oct 31 Bowling Green	34-14 24-8 24-7	MONTANA Coach: Earle Solomons	on	Oct 10 Montana St. Oct 17 at Idaho Oct 24 Stephen F. Austin	61-10 17-13 34-27	NORTHERN ARIZON Coach: Larry Kentera 1986 Record: 7-4-0	A
Nov 7 at Miami, Fla. Nov 14 at Kent St.	23-24	1986 Record: 6-4-0 Sep 12 Portland St. Sep 19 at No. Arizona Sep 26 Nevada-Reno	35-14 28-34 17-51	Oct 31 Idaho St. Nov 7 Boise St. Nov 14 Weber St. Nov 21 at No. Arizona	44-14 21-16 38-24 27-17	Sep 5 at No. Colorado Sep 19 Montana Sep 26 Idaho	34-28 24-0
MICHIGAN Coach: Bo Schembech 1986 Record: 11-2-0 Sep 12 Notre Dame		Sep 26 Nevada-Reno Oct 3 at No. lowa Oct 10 at Idaho Oct 17 Boise St.	31-38 0-31	NEW HAMPSHIRE		Oct 3 Sonoma St. Oct 10 at Weber St. Oct 17 at Idaho St. Oct 24 Montana St.	45-24 31-17 19-27
Sep 19 Washington St. Sep 26 Long Beach St. Oct 3 Wisconsin	34-17	Oct 24 Weber St. Oct 31 at Montana St. Nov 7 Idaho St. Nov 14 at East, Washington	55-29 59-28 57-13 42-37	Coach: Bill Bowes 1986 Record: 7-4-0 Sep 5 Richmond Sep 19 at Boston U.	12-38 26-9	Oct 31 at East. Washington Nov 7 at Tulsa Nov 14 at Boise St.	6-28 17-14
Oct 10 at Michigan St. Oct 17 lowa Oct 24 at Indiana Oct 31 Northwestern	27-6 20-17 38-14	Nov 21 at Fullerton St. MONTANA STATE		Sep 26 Dartmouth Oct 3 Delaware Oct 17 Northeastern	66-12 28-21 24-21	Nov 21 Nevada-Reno NORTHERN ILLINOIS	
Nov 7 at Minnesota Nov 14 at Illinois Nov 21 Ohio St.	17-20 69-13 26-24	Coach: Dave Arnold 1986 Record: 3-8-0 Sep 5 at Long Beach St.		Oct 24 Lafayette Oct 31 at Rhode Island Nov 7 at Maine Nov 14 Massachusetts	20-16 28-24 13-14 31-38	Coach: Jerry Pettibone 1986 Record: 2-9-0 Sep 12 Lamar Sep 19 at West, Michigan	
MICHIGAN STATI Coach: George Perle 1986 Record: 6-5-0	s	Sep 12 Sam Houston St. Sep 19 at No. lowa Sep 26 East. Washington Oct 3 at Boise St.	6-23 46-25 14-27 14-31	Nov 21 at Connecticut NEW MEXICO	42-19	Sep 26 at Northwestern Oct 3 at East, Michigan Oct 19 Toledo Oct 17 SW Missouri St.	21-14 28-29
Sep 7 USC Sep 19 at Notre Dame Sep 26 Florida St.	20-15	Oct 10 at Nevada-Reno Oct 17 Weber St. Oct 24 at No. Arizona Oct 31 Montana	10-61 3-24 27-19 28-59	Coach: Mike Sheppard 1986 Record: 4-8-0 Sep 5 at Utah		Oct 24 Fullerton St. Oct 31 at Ball St. Nov 7 West. Illinois Nov 14 Akron	10-20 0-10
Oct 3 at Iowa Oct 10 Michigan Oct 17 at Northwestern Oct 24 Illinois	21-24 6-27 21-24 29-21	Nov 7 Idaho Nov 14 at Idaho St.	17-44 50-27	Sep 12 at New Mexico St. Sep 19 at Arizona Sep 26 BYU Oct 10 Hawaii	45-14 30-31 10-27	Nov 28 at UNLV	
Oct 31 at Ohio St. Nov 7 Purdue Nov 14 Indiana Nov 21 at Wisconsin	37-3 14-17 23-13	MOREHEAD STATE Coach: Bill Baldridge 1986 Record: 7-4-0 Sep 5 at Marshall	19-10	Oct 24 Colorado St. Oct 31 at San Diego St. Nov 7 Wyoming Nov 14 Air Force	27-32 34-38 25-35	Coach: Francis Peay 1986 Record: 4-7-0 Sep 12 at Duke	6-17
MINNESOTA		Sep 12 Kentucky St. Sep 19 at James Madison Oct 10 at Austin Peay	33-10 27-24 27-10	Nov 21 UTEP Nov 28 at Arkansas	24-22	Sep 19 at Missouri Sep 26 No. Illinois Oct 3 at Indiana Oct 10 Minnesota	7-24 23-44
Coach: John Gutekur 1986 Record: 6-6-0 Sep 12 No. Iowa Sep 19 California		Oct 17 Tennessee Tech Oct 24 Tennessee St. Oct 31 at Murray St. Nov 7 Mid. Tennessee St.	28-20 11-45 7-24	NEW MEXICO STAT Coach: Mike Knoll 1986 Record: 1-10-0		Oct 17 Michigan St. Oct 24 at Wisconsin Oct 31 at Michigan	24-21 27-35
Sep 26 Cent. Michigan Oct 3 Purdue Oct 10 at Northwestern Oct 17 Indiana	36-9 44-23 19-17	Nov 14 at Youngstown St. Nov 21 East. Kentucky	27-24 6-23	Sep 5 at UTEP Sep 12 New Mexico Sep 26 Angelo St. Oct 3 at Pacific	33-47 14-45 14-20 14-41	Nov 7 lowa Nov 14 at Purdue Nov 21 Illinois	20-27 16-17 23-18
Oct 24 at Ohio St. Oct 31 at Illinois Nov 7 Michigan	0-33	NAVY Coach: Elliot Uzelac 1986 Record: 3-8-0 Sep 12 William & Mary		Oct 10 at San Jose St. Oct 17 at Long Beach St. Oct 24 McNeese St.	7-45 7-38	NOTRE DAME Coach; Lou Holtz 1986 Record: 5-6-0	
Nov 14 Wisconsin Nov 21 at lowa MISSISSIPPI	27-20 27-30	Sep 19 Lehigh Sep 26 N. Carolina Oct 3 at Virginia Tech	41-0	Oct 31 at Fullerton St. Nov 7 Utah St. Nov 14 UNLV Nov 21 Fresno St.	24-21 9-42 42-58 14-17	Sep 12 at Michigan Sep 19 Michigan St. Sep 26 at Purdue Oct 10 at Pittsburgh	23-24 15-20 41-9 9-10
Coach: Billy Brewer 1986 Record: 7-3-1 Sep 5 at Memphis St.		Oct 10 Air Force Oct 17 at Pennsylvania Oct 24 Pittsburgh Oct 31 at Notre Dame	6-40 26-30 14-56 14-33	NORTH CAROLINA Coach: Dick Crum		Oct 17 at Air Force Oct 24 USC Oct 31 Navy	31-3 38-37 33-14
Sep 12 Arkansas Sep 19 Arkansas St. Sep 26 at Tulane Oct 3 Georgia	0-21 10-10 35-10 10-14	Nov 7 Syracuse Nov 14 at Delaware Dec 5 Army @ @Philadelphia	22-31 14-27 7-27	1986 Record; 7-4-1 Sep 5 Illinois Sep 12 at Oklahoma Sep 19 at Georgia Tech	21-20	Nov 7 Boston Coll. Nov 14 Alabama Nov 21 at Penn St. Nov 28 at Miami, Fla.	10-28 19-24
Oct 10 at Kentucky Oct 17 SW Louisiana Oct 24 Vanderbilt Oct 31 LSU	33-13 21-20 28-12 21-19	NEBRASKA Coach: Tom Osborne		Sep 26 at Navy Oct 3 Auburn Oct 10 Wake Forest Oct 17 at N. Carolina St.	40-30 34-35	OHIO Coach: Cleve Bryant	
Nov 14 at Tennessee Nov 21 Mississippi St. @ @ Jackson, Miss.	10-22 24-3	1986 Record: 10-2-0 Sep 5 Utah St. Sep 12 UCLA Sep 26 at Arizona St.		Oct 31 at Maryland Nov 7 Clemson Nov 14 at Virginia	32-30 10-38 27-7	1986 Record: 1-10-0 Sep 5 at W. Virginia Sep 12 Marshall Sep 19 at Toledo	7-21 21-24
MISSISSIPPI STA	er	Oct 3 S. Carolina Oct 10 Kansas Oct 17 at Oklahoma St. Oct 24 Kansas St.	27-24 70-0 30-10 38-0	NOV 21 Duke NORTH CAROLINA ST.	42-35 ATE	Oct 3 at Kentucky Oct 10 Bowling Green Oct 17 at Miami, O. Oct 24 Kent State	16-21 14-34 13-17
Sep 5 SW Louisiana Sep 12 Tennessee Sep 19 Louisiana Tech	27-23	Oct 31 at Missouri Nov 7 lowa St. Nov 14 at Colorado Nov 21 Oklahoma	48-17 35-14 10-20 17-20	Coach: Dick Sheridan 1986 Record: 8-3-1 Sep 5 E. Carolina Sep 12 at Pittsburgh	38-10 14-14	Oct 31 at East. Michigan Nov 7 Cent. Michigan Nov 14 at Ball St. Nov 21 West. Michigan	31-33 27-56 9-30 17-45
Sep 26 at Florida Oct 3 Memphis St. Oct 17 at So. Mississippi Oct 24 at Auburn	16-10 34-17 24-28 6-35	NEVADA-LAS VEGA Coach: Wayne Nunnel	s	Sep 19 at Wake Forest Sep 26 Maryland Oct 3 Georgia Tech Oct 17 N. Carolina	42-38 28-16 21-59 35-34	OHIO STATE Coach: Earle Bruce	
Oct 31 at Alabama Nov 7 Tulane Nov 14 at LSU	3-38 34-27 0-47	1986 Record: 6-5-0 Sep 12 at SW Louisiana Sep 19 Baylor		Oct 24 at Clemson Oct 31 at S. Carolina Nov 7 E. Tennessee St.	27-3 23-22	1986 Record: 10-3-0 Sep 12 W. Virginia Sep 19 Oregon	

Sep 26 at LSU Oct 3 at Illinois	14-0	Nov 7 Nov 14	at Lafayette at Harvard	42-14 17-10	Sep 26 Oct 3	Kentucky Duke	16-16	Oct 24 Oct 31	at NE Louisiana So. Mississippi	24-20 0-17
Oct 10 Indiana Oct 17 at Purdue	24-22 39-11	Nov 21	Dartmouth	21-7	Oct 10 Oct 17	at Penn St. Boston Coll.	6-31 11-9	Nov 7 Nov 14	Memphis St. at Tulane	26-10 39-42
Oct 24 Minnesota Oct 31 Michigan St. Nov 7 at Wisconsin	33-0 30-17		PENN STATE Coach: Joe Paterno		Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7	at Army at Vanderbilt Pittsburgh	35-7 6-20	Nov 28	Colorado St.	
Nov 14 Iowa Nov 21 at Michigan	31-10 24-26	Sep 5 Sep 12	1986 Record: 12-0-0 Bowling Green Alabama	23-3	Nov 14 Nov 21	at W. Virginia at Temple	17-24 22-29		STANFORD Coach: Jack Elway 1986 Record: 8-4-0	
OKLAHOMA		Sep 19 Sep 26	Cincinnati at Boston Coll.	23-17 26-14	s	AN DIEGO STATE		Sep 5 Sep 19	at Washington at Colorado	14-24
Coach: Barry Switzer 1986 Record: 11-1-0		Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 17	Temple Rutgers at Syracuse	45-15 31-6 42-3		Coach: Denny Stolz 1986 Record: 8-4-0		Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	San Jose St. UCLA at Washington St.	28-10 28-23 42-12
Sep 5 N. Texas St. Sep 12 N. Carolina Sep 27 at Tulsa		Oct 31 Nov 7	W. Virginia at Maryland	19-0 17-15	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19	at UCLA Utah at Air Force	14-45 37-30 10-22	Oct 17 Oct 24	at San Diego St. Oregon	17-10 41-7
Oct 3 at lowa St. Oct 7 at Texas	38-0 47-12	Nov 14 Nov 21	at Pittsburgh Notre Dame	34-14 24-19	Sep 26 Oct 3	at Oregon at Wyoming	31-24	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	Arizona at USC at Oregon St.	29-24 0-10 17-7
Oct 17 Kansas St. Oct 24 Colorado Oct 31 at Kansas	56-10 28-0 64-3	(PITTSBURGH Coach: Mike Gottfried		Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	UTEP Stanford Long Beach St.	15-10 10-17 27-24	Nov 21	California	11-17
Nov 7 Oklahoma St. Nov 14 Missouri Nov 21 at Nebraska	19-0 77-0 20-17	Sep 5 Sep 12	1986 Record: 5-5-1 at BYU N. Carolina St.	14-14	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	New Mexico at BYU at Hawaii	38-34 10-3 35-5	Co	SYRACUSE each: Dick MacPherso	n
		Sep 19 Sep 26	Temple at W. Virginia	13-19 48-16	Nov 21		27-26	Sep 5 Sep 12	1986 Record: 5-6-0 Maryland at Rutgers	10-16
OKLAHOMA STATE Coach: Pat Jones 1986 Record: 6-5-0	•	Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 24	Boston Coll. Notre Dame at Navy	10-9 56-14		SAN JOSE STATE Coach: Claude Gilbert		Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	Miami, O. at Virginia Tech at Missouri	17-26 41-9
Sep 5 Tulsa Sep 12 at Houston	23-27 12-28	Oct 31 Nov 7	Syracuse at Rutgers	20-24 20-6	Sep 5	1986 Record: 10-2-0 East. Illinois		Oct 17 Oct 24	Penn St. Colgate	3-42
Sep 19 at Wyoming Sep 26 SW Louislana	21-20 14-31	Nov 14 Nov 21	Penn St. Kent St.	14-34	Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26	at California at Oregon St. at Stanford	35-14 10-28	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	at Pittsburgh at Navy Boston Coll.	24-20 31-22 9-27
Oct 10 Colorado Oct 17 Nebraska Oct 24 at Missouri	10-30 10-6		PRINCETON Coach: Ron Rogerson		Oct 3 Oct 10	Fullerton St. New Mexico St.	48-24 45-7	Nov 21		34-23
Oct 31 Kansas St. Nov 7 at Oklahoma Nov 14 at Kansas	23-3 0-19 24-6	Sep 19	1986 Record: 2-8-0 at Dartmouth	6-28	Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	at Fresno St. UNLV at Utah St.	45-41 23-20 38-28	1	TEMPLE Coach: Bruce Arians	
Nov 21 Iowa St.	21-14	Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	at Davidson at Brown Columbia	10-24 20-14	Nov 7 Nov 14	Pacific at Long Beach St.	44-15 38-14	Sep 5 Sep 12	1986 Record: 6-5-0 at Toledo at Boston Coll.	29-38
OREGON Coach: Rich Brooks		Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	Lehigh at Harvard	28-48 14-3 10-23	s	OUTH CAROLINA		Sep 19 Sep 24	at Pittsburgh Akron	19-13
1986 Record: 5-6-0 Sep 12 at Colorado	32-30	Nov 7 Nov 14	at Pennsylvania Colgate Yale	13-14	Sep 5	Coach: Joe Morrison 1986 Record: 3-6-2		Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 17	Penn St. Tulsa at Florida	15-45
Sep 19 at Ohio St. Sep 26 San Diego St. Oct 3 Washington	3-38	Nov 21	Cornell	8-39	Sep 12 Sep 19	at Miami, Fla.	45-34 14-34	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	at Army at E. Carolina Houston	45-28
Oct 10 USC Oct 17 at UCLA Oct 24 at Stanford	21-35 7-41		PURDUE Coach: Fred Akers 1986 Record: 3-8-0		Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	at Georgia at Nebraska Virginia Tech	26-31 24-27 27-27	Nov 21	Rutgers	29-22
Oct 31 California Nov 7 at Arizona St.	27-9 17-37	Sep 12 Sep 19	at Washington Louisville		Oct 17 Oct 24	Virginia E. Carolina	20-30 38-3	c	TENNESSEE Coach: Johnny Majors	
Nov 14 at Washington St. Nov 21 Oregon St.	27-17 49-28	Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	Notre Dame at Minnesota Illinois	9-41 9-36 27-34	Oct 31 Nov 14 Nov 21	N. Carolina St. at Wake Forest Clemson	22-23 48-21 21-21	Aug 30 Sep 5	1986 Record: 7-5-0 lowa @ Colorado St.	
OREGON STATE		Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	Ohio St. at Iowa	11-39 14-42		OUTHERN ILLINOIS		Sep 12 Sep 26	at Mississippi St. Auburn	23-27 8-34
Coach: Dave Kragthorp 1986 Record: 3-8-0 Sep 12 at Georgia	6	Nov 7	Wisconsin Michigan St. Northwestern	3-37 17-16	30	Coach: Ray Dorr 1986 Record: 7-4-0	•	Oct 3 Oct 17 Oct 24	California at Alabama Georgia Tech	28-56 13-14
Sep 19 San Jose St. Sep 26 at Texas		Nov 21	at Indiana	17-15	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19		35-14 24-17	Oct 31 Nov 7	at Boston Coll. Louisville Mississippi	22-10
Oct 3 at USC Oct 10 Akron Oct 17 at Arizona	12-23		Coach: Jerry Berndt 1986 Record: 4-7-0		Sep 26 Oct 3	Illinois St. at Kansas	20-3 23-35	Nov 21 Nov 28	at Kentucky Vanderbilt	28-9 35-20
Oct 24 Arizona St. Oct 31 at Washington Nov 7 UCLA	12-28 0-49		Lamar at Indiana	28-14	Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	at Fresno St. West. Illinois Arkansas St.	21-24 7-22	@East F	Rutherford, N.J. TEXAS	
Nov 14 Stanford Nov 21 at Oregon	7-17 28-49	Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	at LSU SW Texas St. at Texas	6-31 14-17	Oct 31 Nov 7	at Indiana St. at East. Illinois	16-14 7-52	Co	pach: Dave McWilliam 1986 Record: 5-6-0	8
PACIFIC		Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	TCU at Texas Tech Texas A&M	37-31 21-49 10-45	Nov 14		27-24	Sep 5 Sep 12	at Auburn BYU	
Coach: Bob Cope 1986 Record: 4-7-0		Oct 31 Nov 14	Arkansas at Baylor	14-45 17-23		JTHERN MISSISSI Coach: Jim Carmody 1986 Record: 6-5-0	PPI	Oct 3 Oct 10	Oregon St. Rice Oklahoma@	17-14 12-47
Sep 5 at California Sep 12 Sacramento St. Sep 19 at Arizona St.	31-7	NOV 28	Houston RICHMOND	14-13	Sep 5 Sep 19	at Alabama Tulane	17-35 20-35	Oct 17 Oct 31 Nov 7	at Arkansas Texas Tech at Houston	14-21 21-23 30-10
Sep 26 at Washington Oct 3 New Mexico St. Oct 10 Long Beach St.	41-14 21-38		Coach: Dal Shealy 1986 Record: 4-7-0		Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	Texas A&M at Louisville Florida St.	7-16 31-16 13-49	Nov 14 Nov 21	TCU	45-16 13-18 3-16
Oct 17 at Utah St. Oct 24 Fresno St.	10-14 9-10	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19	at New Hampshire at Wake Forest Massachusetts	38-12 21-24	Oct 17 Oct 24	Mississippi St. at Memphis St.	28-24 14-9	@at Dal		3-10
Nov 7 at San Jose St. Nov 14 at Fullerton St. Nov 21 at UNLV	15-44 38-39 21-15	Sep 26 Oct 3	at Delaware Connecticut	19-20 22-29	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	Jackson St. NE Louisiana E. Carolina	28-19 23-21	(TEXAS A&M Coach: Jackie Sherrill	
PENNSYLVANIA		Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	at James Madison at Maine Rhode Island	11-26 28-14	Nov 28	at SW Louisiana	17-0	Sep 5	1986 Record: 9-3-0 LSU Washington	17-35
Coach: Ed Zubrow 1986 Record: 10-0-0		Oct 31 Nov 14		56-15 14-21		THWEST LOUISIA loach: Nelson Stokeley		Sep 26 Oct 3	at So. Mississippi at Texas Tech	45-8
Sep 19 Cornell Sep 26 at Bucknell Oct 3 at Columbia	31-21 10-7 42-7	1107 21	RUTGERS	17 61	Sep 5 Sep 12	1986 Record: 6-5-0 at Mississippi St. UNLV		Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	Houston at Baylor at Rice	19-7 31-30 45-10
Oct 10 Brown Oct 17 Navy	34-0 30-26		Coach: Dick Anderson 1986 Record: 5-5-1	40.00	Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	at Oklahoma St. at Alabama NW Louisiana St.	20-21	Oct 31	Louisiana Tech Arkansas	10-14 74-10
Oct 24 at Yale Oct 31 Princeton	24-6 23-10	Sep 5 Sep 12	at Cincinnati Syracuse	48-28 16-10	Oct 17		20-21	Nov 26		16-3

T	AA Major College Scho EXAS CHRISTIAN Coach: Jim Wacker 1986 Record: 3-8-0		Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 17	Arizona at Stanford Oregon	32-25 23-28	Co	RGINIA MILITARY ach: Eddie Williamsor 1986 Record: 1-10-0		Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	No. Illinois at Bowling Green Toledo	3-17 7-28
Sep 5 Sep 12	at Boston Coll. at Air Force	17-34	Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14		36-10 32-25 49-0 17-17	Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	W. Virginia Tech at Appalachian St. Wofford at Virginia	6-19	Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	Miami, O. at Kent St. East. Michigan at Cent. Michigan	27-17 27-7 14-21 10-18
Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	at Rice N. Texas St. at Baylor Houston	31-37 20-24 17-28 30-14	Nov 21	usc Coach: Larry Smith	45-25	Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	at The Citadel James Madison at Marshall William & Mary@	47-30 7-39 9-16 22-37	Nov 7 Nov 21	Ball St. at Ohio	10-24 45-17
Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21	at Texas Tech at Texas Texas A&M	14-36 16-45 10-74	Sep 7 Sep 19 Sep 26	1986 Record: 7-5-0 at Michigan St. Boston Coll.	28-3	Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21 @Norfol	at Furman E. Tennessee St. TennChattanooga	3-34 20-31	Sep 5 Sep 12		31-36 35-28
	TEXAS-EL PASO Coach: Bob Stull 1986 Record: 4-8-0		Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	Oregon St. at Oregon at Washington at Notre Dame	35-21 20-10 37-38		WAKE FOREST Coach: Bill Dooley		Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10		32-38 24-34 38-15
Sep 5 Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	New Mexico St. at Colorado St. Hawaii at Arizona St.	47-33 21-19 21-31	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21		14-34 10-0 20-13 25-45	Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	1986 Record: 5-6-0 Richmond N. Carolina St. Appalachian St. at Army	38-42 21-13 49-14	Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	at E. Texas St. Texas A&I NW Missouri at East. New Mexico	
Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7	at San Diego St. Lamar Wyoming at Air Force at Utah	12-41 21-23 55-44		UTAH Coach: Jim Fassel 1986 Record: 2-9-0		Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	at N. Carolina Maryland at Virginia at Clemson	30-40 27-21 28-30 20-28	Nov 21	WEST VIRGINIA Coach: Don Nehlen	32-28
Nov 14 Nov 21	New Mexico	13-37 22-24	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26	at Wisconsin Idaho St.	43-47 30-37	Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21	Duke S. Carolina at Georgia Tech	36-38 21-48 24-21	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19	at Maryland	3-24
Sep 5	TEXAS TECH Coach: Spike Dykes 1986 Record: 7-5-0 at Florida St.		Oct 2 Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	Utah St. at Colorado St. at Hawaii at Air Force	27-10 38-28 13-33 35-45		WASHINGTON Coach: Don James 1986 Record: 8-3-1		Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 17 Oct 24	E. Carolina Cincinnati at Boston Coll.	16-48 24-21 10-19
Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	Colorado St. Lamar at Baylor Texas A&M	14-45 8-45	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21		44-55 14-38 21-35	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	Stanford Purdue at Texas A&M Pacific	38-3	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21		0-19 7-13 24-17 23-34
Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7	Arkansas Rice Tulsa at Texas TCU	17-7 49-21 23-21 36-14	2010	UTAH STATE Coach: Chuck Shelton 1986 Record: 3-8-0		Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 31 Nov 7	at Oregon Arizona St. USC Oregon St. at Arizona	21-34 10-20 28-12	(WILLIAM & MARY Coach: Jimmy Laycock 1986 Record: 9-2-0	
Nov 21	at Houston TOLEDO	34-7	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19 Oct 2 Oct 10	Fullerton St. at BYU	0-33 0-52 7-6	Nov 14 Nov 21	at UCLA Washington St.	17-17 44-23	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19 Oct 3 Oct 10	at Colgate Lehigh	42-21 44-34
Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19 Oct 3 Oct 10	Coach: Dan Simrell 1986 Record: 7-4-0 Temple Ball St. Ohio at West. Michigan	10-27 24-21 28-7	Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21		14-10 10-27 28-38 42-9 7-14 3-14		oach: Dennis Ericksor 1986 Record: 3-7-1 Fresno St. Wyoming at Michigan at Colorado		Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21	at Yale Delaware James Madison VMI@ Bucknell at Holy Cross Richmond	24-18 33-42 37-22 30-13 7-31 21-14
Oct 17 Oct 21 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	at No. Illinois at Bowling Green at Miami, O. at Kent St. East. Michigan at Cent. Michigan at Miami, Fia.	29-28 22-3 8-24 16-18 23-18 26-14	Sep 12 Sep 19	VANDERBILT Coach: Watson Brown 1986 Record: 1-10-0 Memphis St. at Duke Alabama at Tulane	21-22 24-18 10-42 17-35	Nov 21	Stanford at Arizona St. Arizona at USC Oregon at Washington California@ , Japan	12-42 21-21 6-31 34-14 17-27 23-44 21-31	@Norfo	WISCONSIN Coach: Don Morton 1986 Record: 3-9-0 Hawaii Utah	17-20
Sep 5	TULANE Coach: Mack Brown 1986 Record: 4-7-0 at Louisville	12-23	Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31	at Auburn Georgia Mississippi Rutgers	9-31 16-38 12-28		WEBER STATE Coach: Mike Price 1986 Record: 3-8-0		Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	at Michigan lowa at Illinois Northwestern	17-34 6-17 15-9 35-27
Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	lowa St. So. Mississippi Mississippi Vanderbilt	35-20 10-35 35-17	Nov 7 Nov 21 Nov 28	Kentucky Maryland at Tennessee	22-34 21-35 20-35	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26	Western St. at Long Beach St.	13-23	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21	at Purdue Ohio St. at Minnesota	17-30 20-27 13-23
Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21	at Memphis St. Virginia Tech Florida St. at Mississippi St. SW Louisiana LSU	15-6 21-54 27-34 42-39 17-37	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26	Virginia Tech	10-42 10-42 13-20	Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21	No. Arizona at Montana St. at Montana Idaho East. Washington Nevada-Reno at Idaho St.	24-45 24-3 29-55 17-31 31-41 24-28 63-33	Sep 5 Sep 12 Sep 19	WYOMING Coach: Paul Roach 1986 Record: 6-6-0 Air Force at Washington St. Oklahoma St.	23-17
Co Sep 5	TULSA pach: George Henshar 1986 Record: 7-4-0 at Oklahoma St.	w 27-23	Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24	VMI at Clemson at S. Carolina Wake Forest	17-31 30-20 30-28		ESTERN CAROLIN Coach: Bob Waters 1986 Record: 6-5-0		Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 24	lowa St. San Diego St. at BYU at UTEP	10-21 24-31 22-34 41-12
Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep 26 Oct 3	at Florida at Arkansas Oklahoma at Kansas St.	E. 20	Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21	at N. Carolina St.	14-28 7-27 20-16		at Clemson at S. Carolina Furman at E. Tennessee St.	24-45 19-13 43-16	Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 28	Colorado St. at New Mexico at Utah at Hawaii	15-20 35-25 38-14 19-35
Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7	at Temple at Cent. Michigan at Texas Tech Louisville No. Arizona	42-6		VIRGINIA TECH Coach: Frank Beamer 1986 Record: 9-2-1 Clemson at Virginia	20-14 42-10	Oct 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7	Mars Hill N. Carolina A&T Georgia South. at Citadel	27-12		YALE Coach: Carmen Cozza 1986 Record: 3-7-0 Brown	
	Memphis St.		Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10 Oct 17	Syracuse Navy at S. Carolina	26-17	Nov 14 Nov 21	Tenn,-Chattanooga at Marshall Appalachian St.	7-34 33-20 13-17	Sep 26 Oct 3 Oct 10	Connecticut at Hawaii William & Mary	7-21
Sep 5 Sep 12	coach: Terry Donahue 1986 Record: 8-3-1 San Diego St. at Nebraska Fresno St.	45-14	Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21		17-15 13-7 20-24	Sep 5	ESTERN MICHIGA Coach: Al Molde 1986 Record: 3-8-0 Akron at Illinois St.	N	Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14 Nov 21		28-23 6-24 13-39 0-15 14-13 17-24



Keith Jackson Oklahoma



Lorenzo White Michigan State

The 1987 **All-America** Offensive Team

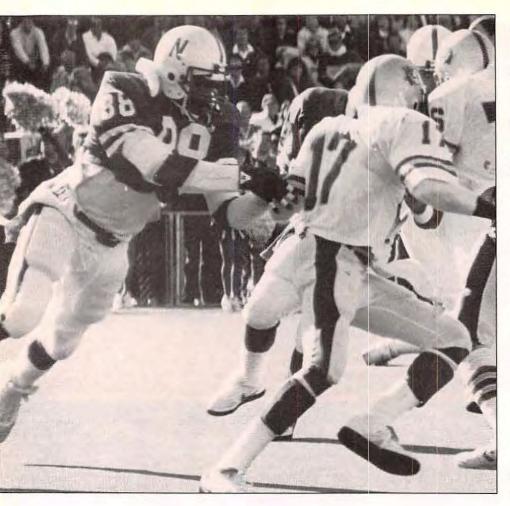
Pos.	Player	Yr.	School
WR	Tim Brown	Sr.	Notre Dame
WR	Cris Carter	Sr.	Ohio St.
TE	Keith Jackson	Sr.	Oklahoma
T	David Williams	Jr.	Florida
T	Joel Porter	Sr.	Baylor
G	Mark Hutson	Sr.	Oklahoma
G	John Phillips	Sr.	Clemson
C	Andy Sinclair	Sr.	Stanford
QB	Kerwin Bell	Sr.	Florida
RB	Gaston Green	Sr.	UCLA
RB	Lorenzo White	Sr.	Michigan St.



Tim Brown **Notre Dame**

Gaston Green UCLA



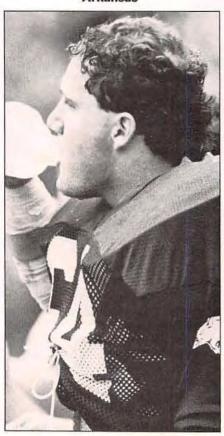


The 1987 All-America Defensive Team

os.	Player	Yr.	School
DE	Broderick Thomas	Jr.	Nebraska
DE	Daniel Stubbs	Sr.	Miami
DT	Tony Cherico	Sr.	Arkansas
DT	Al Noga	Sr.	Hawaii
LB	Ken Norton	Sr.	UCLA
LB	Chris Spielman	Sr.	Ohio St.
LB	Trey Bauer	Sr.	Penn St.
DB	Jarvis Williams	Sr.	Florida
DB	Bennie Blades	Sr.	Miami
DB	Chuck Cecil	Sr.	Arizona
DB	Teddy Johnson	Jr.	Oregon St.

Broderick Thomas Nebraska

Tony Cherico Arkansas





Chuck Cecil Arizona

Chris Spielman Ohio State



Southeastern

Conference

Auburn Looks To Claw Its Way To The Top

SHUFFLE THE DECK AND PICK A card. Nearly anyone could be a winner. Such is life in the Southeastern Conference.

"It sounds like a broken record," says Tennessee coach John Majors, whose team won the title two years ago and then slipped to 7-5 last season. "Each year several people have a chance to win the championship. It's according to who has good fortune and injuries and who wins the close ball games."

In the last five years, five different teams have won the regular-season title, although Florida was forced to vacate its spot in 1984 because of NCAA violations.

This year Auburn has a good chance to return to the Sugar Bowl for the first time since 1983. Most of the offense is back, along with several outstanding defensive players. But the Tigers' path won't be easy. It never is in the SEC.

Auburn

The last time the Tigers entered the season with an established quarterback was 1983, also the last time they went to the Sugar Bowl. The steadiness of senior Jeff Burger is one reason the Tigers are favored to return to New Orleans.

Burger last season threw for more yards (1,671) than any Tiger since current quarterback coach Pat Sullivan in 1971. Burger's 56.8 completion percentage was the third best in school history.

But the experience does not stop there for the Tigers, who were 10-2 in '86.

"Experience-wise, this group is as well off as our 1983 championship team," says head coach Pat Dye. "I feel like we have the talent to be in the hunt for the SEC title this season."

Much of the talent is on defense, a unit led by outside linebacker Aundray Bruce

(6-6, 228) and tackle Tracy Rocker (6-3, 258), both 1986 All-SEC picks. Linebacker Kurt Crain set a school record for tackles

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Auburn
- 2. LSU
- 3. Tennessee
- 4. Florida
- 5. Georgia
- 6. Alabama
- 7. Mississippi
- 8. Kentucky
- 9. Mississippi State
- 10. Vanderbilt

Players To Watch:

Wendell Davis, WR, LSU; Anthony Miller, WR, Tennessee; Kurt Crain, LB, Auburn; John Brantley, LB, Georgia; Lars Tate, RB, Georgia; Bobby Humphrey, RB, Alabama; Eric Andolsek, G, LSU; Kerwin Bell, QB, Florida; J. R. Ambrose, WR, Mississippi

Teams To Watch:

Ole Miss, LSU, Alabama

Games To Watch:

Sept. 26—Auburn at Tennessee; Oct. 3— LSU at Florida; Oct. 31—LSU at Mississippi; Nov. 14—Auburn at Georgia; Nov. 28—Auburn vs. Alabama (at Birmingham)

with 156. Senior cornerback Kevin Porter has run back three interceptions for touchdowns in his career. Safety Shan Morris helps give Auburn an exceptional secondary.

The offense also has its share of talent besides Burger. Wide receiver Lawyer Tillman led the SEC in yards per catch with a 20.9 average, scoring a touchdown on every 5.8 receptions. He scored the winning touchdown against Alabama on a reverse, his only rushing attempt of the season.

Tackle Stacy Searels (6-6, 270) anchors the offensive line, and Jim Thompson (6-6, 255) started every game on the other side. Even punter Brian Shulman has credentials. He is the leading returning punter in the conference with a 1986 average of 44.1 yards per kick.

The major project for Auburn is settling on a replacement for tailback Brent Fullwood. Either Curtis Stewart, a fifthyear senior, or James Joseph, the secondleading rusher last year, will start.

The schedule will be challenging, to say the least. The Tigers open with Texas and Kansas at home and then travel to Tennessee and North Carolina. They also have Florida and Florida State at home and Georgia on the road before playing Alabama in Birmingham.

LSU

It's probably fortunate for the Tigers that new head coach Mike Archer was the team's defensive coordinator last year. If LSU (9-3 in '86) hopes to make a second straight trip to the Sugar Bowl, the defense must be rebuilt.

Only four starters graduated, but they included the three interior linemen and an inside linebacker. Those linemen included third-team All-America nose guard Henry Thomas, and the group had been together for four years. Five lettermen are competing for the openings.

"In the defensive line, we've worked very hard to get three guys ready to play," says Archer. "And I feel with [end Tommy] Clapp, [nose guard Darrell] Phillips, [end Karl] Dunbar, [end Brian] Puckett, and [end] Clint James, we'll have a pretty good line. I don't think it will be as good as the three guys who graduated, but we don't expect to be that good yet."

They can expect to be very good elsewhere, particularly at outside linebacker with Ron Sancho and Eric Hill, and in the secondary. Safety Chris Carrier led the SEC in interceptions last year with six.

This time last year, the offense was a major concern because the entire starting backfield had graduated. So in his first season, redshirt freshman Tommy Hodson simply went out and led the SEC in passing efficiency (fifth best in the nation) and ranked second in total offense. He is one of eight starters returning to the offense.

The flashiest player is running back Harvey Williams, who gained 700 yards as a true freshman last year. In all, six lettermen return at the two running back spots.

Wendell Davis may be the best wide receiver in the nation. He made 80 catches for 1,244 yards and 11 touch-downs last year, while setting four LSU receiving records. The 6-0, 183-pound senior seems to find a way of getting open despite double and triple coverage. Senior Rogie Magee, the receiver on the other side, prevents defenses from concentrating solely on Davis.

All-America candidate Eric Andolsek at guard anchors an offensive line that must replace two starters.

Tennessee

Like Dooley, Vols coach John Majors wants to improve his defense, which ranked eighth in the league last season in yards and points allowed.

"We've got to get a decent defensive unit if we're going to show up," says Majors. "I'm talking about to have a chance to be a good team, much less compete for a championship."

The defense went back to basics in the spring, emphasizing fundamentals.

"We're going back to learning the ABC's like we're in the first grade," says Majors. "There are very few places on our defense where we don't need help, where we don't have problems."

One of the bright spots, though, is the inside linebacker spot, where starter Kelly Ziegler returns. The outside linebacker slot will suffer from the departure of big-play man Dale Jones.

The secondary, says Majors, is "as green as it can be." Two starters graduated and a third, Andre Creamer, is on a disciplinary suspension. Majors said he

Southeastern

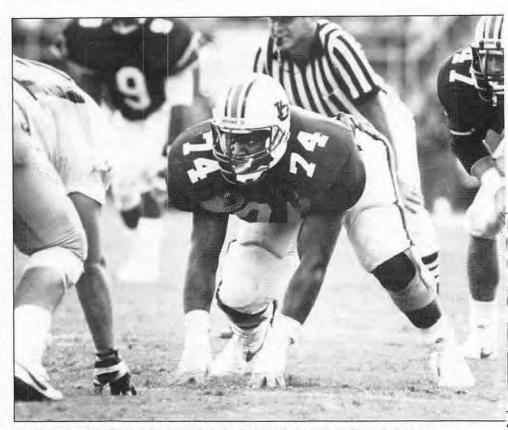
Conference

is not counting on Creamer for this year.

If the offense is forced to outscore opponents, it just might have the necessary firepower. Junior quarterback Jeff Francis was second in the SEC in passing ef-

downs. Yet, he may find himself handing off more times than he would like this season because the Gators must nurture a young receiving corps.

Ricky Nattiel, Eric Hodges, and Bret Weichman—three of the Gators' top five receivers—are gone from last year's 6-5 club. Nattiel led the team with 44 receptions, twice as many as the second-leading receiver, Anthony Williams.



All-SEC tackle Tracy Rocker leads Auburn's outstanding defense.

ficiency and MVP of the Liberty Bowl. Anthony Miller is the next in a long line of outstanding Vol receivers. Alvin Harper, a redshirt freshman, may prove to be best talent they've ever had. The Vols are so deep at wide receiver that they have toyed with a four-wideout alignment.

The Vols are strong at running back, too, with William Howard, Charles Wilson, and Keith Davis returning. Majors must replace two tackles, but the line has a chance to be solid, particularly with all-SEC guard Harry Galbreath.

If anything, the Vols take some momentum into the season. They won their last five games in 1986.

Florida

What if you had a Heisman Trophy candidate at quarterback, but no one for him to pass to? That's the dilemma for Gator coach Galen Hall. Kerwin Bell has thrown for 5,816 yards and 47 touch-

If that's not bad enough, consider that most of the top prospects for next season were virtually nonexistent in spring practice. Ed Frazier ran track, and Tony Lomax and Darrell Woulard were injured much of the time. That left sophomore Stacey Simmons, who should emerge as a starter.

The tight end should be a factor this year. The position produced just six receptions in 1986. But big Walter Odom (6-4, 233) is expected back after sitting out last season with academic problems.

The running back spot is in excellent shape with six returning lettermen. In all, nine of the 11 players who accumulated rushing stats are back. This does not even include freshman signee Emmitt Smith, considered by some to be the top recruit in the country.

Five lettermen return along the line, including All-America candidate David Williams, a 6-6, 290-pound tackle.

On defense, the secondary and line-

backers will be strong. All-SEC cornerback Jarvis Williams is moving to strong safety because there is so much depth at cornerback. Outside linebacker Clifford Charlton (6-2, 232) is in the mold of predecessors Alonzo Johnson and Wilber Marshall. Charlton could break all the school records for sacks and tackles for minus yardage.

The line carries only four players who have seen significant action. The effects of recent NCAA sanctions are being felt in this area because scholarship limitations have nearly depleted the depth. Junior college transfer Jon Hill might be able to help.

Georgia

Head coach Vince Dooley leaves no doubts about his major concern for this season. "We were a poor defensive team last year," he says. "It's like we're starting all over again. We want to have some fun playing defense."

In 1986 the Bulldogs finished seventh in overall defense in the SEC and 10th in passing defense, and had an 8-4 record. They allowed their highest per-game average (335 yards) since 1979.

Injuries crippled the defensive line, but also forced several young players into action. That means the Bulldogs take depth and experience into this season. Their biggest concern is a pass rush; their sack total dropped from 50 to 29 last year.

The linebacker position will be their strength. John Brantley could be one of the best in the country. Fellow starter Terrie Webster is nearly as good as Brantley, and he is a better athlete.

The secondary is Dooley's most serious problem. Two starters are gone from a unit that allowed a league-worst 14 touchdowns. But Mark Vincent, a two-year starter at SMU who transferred to Georgia, will move in at one corner. Improving Greg Williams returns at the other. Senior Miles Smith, a part-time starter at safety last year, also returns.

Running backs Tim Worley and Keith Henderson were dismissed from school for academic reasons, leaving a large hole in the backfield. Lars Tate, the first Bulldog to lead the team in both rushing and receiving since 1961, is the only runner with experience. Freshman signees will have to help.

Quarterback James Jackson, third in the SEC in passing efficiency and total offense, and a corps of excellent receivers might make up for the lack of depth at running back.

Alabama

If Bill Curry didn't get off to enough of

a rocky start with the death threats, consider what happened to him on April 3. His starting center and both starting guards went down with knee injuries, two of them on the same play.

The worst injury was to All-America guard Bill Condon, who might miss the 1987 season. That is not good news for an offense struggling to find a quarterback and some wide receivers from last year's 10-3 team.

David Smith, last season's back-up to Mike Shula, most likely wil be the QB in charge of taking Alabama to its first Sugar Bowl since the 1979 season. He threw only three passes all last year. Redshirt freshmen Jeff Dunn and Billy Ray will push him the most.

One area where Curry's concerns are minimal is running back. Bobby Humphrey was second in the SEC in rushing with 1,471 yards (third most in the nation) last year as a sophomore. Kerry Goode, a promising tailback before a series of injuries, now looks like a capable fullback. 'Bama's depth is so encouraging that Curry took former starting running back Gene Jelks and moved him to cornerback, where he immediately became the most pleasant surprise of spring practice.

At wide receiver, Albert Bell and Greg Richardson, who combined for 49 of the Tide's 129 completions last year, are gone, leaving major holes to fill. Clay Whitehurst and Greg Payne (6-3, 192) are the likely replacements, with Marco Battle also seeing considerable action.

Besides Condon's injury, the offensive line is trying to deal with the loss of center Wes Neighbors, who started 44 of the Tide's last 45 games before graduating. Sophomore Mike Zuga had the lead for the job before dislocating his knee cap on the same play in which Condon was injured. The presence of tackle Joe King (6-7, 309) makes the bad news a bit easier to handle.

The defense lost eight starters, including All-America linebacker Cornelius Bennett. Even so, Tide coaches feel they have an abundance of talent, albeit young. Leading tackler Greg Gilbert is back at linebacker. He and Willie Shephard are a tough combination to beat inside. Outside linebacker Derrick Thomas (6-4, 222) isn't yet as good as Bennett, but during spring practice Curry said, "We don't have anybody who can block him."

The secondary could be exceptional with Jelks and John Mangum at corner-back and All-SEC candidate Kermit Kendrick at safety.

The defensive line is the main concern for Curry, the same problem Ray Perkins



LSU's Wendell Davis is one of the nation's top receivers.

faced last season. Willie Wyatt appears to be comfortably replacing Curt Jarvis at nose guard. Injuries in the fall could be crippling.

Mississippi

This is the best of times and the worst of times for Rebel coach Billy Brewer. He returns nine starters on both offense and defense from last year's Independence Bowl team (7-4-1). But because of NCAA sanctions, the Rebels are prohibited from TV and postseason play. How they approach the season mentally should determine their fate.

Receiver/slotback/running back/return man J. R. Ambrose is one of the nation's most versatile players. He led the SEC in kickoff returning with a 27-yard average. He missed spring practice with a hamstring pull, but with all the work he had last season, maybe he needed a break.

"J. R. has that natural athletic ability and can turn a game around," says Brewer. "He's going to make something happen almost every time he touches the ball."

The rest of the running game is solid. Starters Willie Goodloe and Joe Mickles return along with three other lettermen. Quarterback Mark Young is back after throwing for 1,154 yards.

Brewer recruited effectively from junior colleges to shore up the offensive line and tight end. All the interior starters return from last year. JC transfer Shawn Sowder has a chance to start at tight end.

The loss of defensive tackle Mike Fitzsimmons will be felt, but linebacker Jeff Herrod (6-1, 240) can almost singlehandedly make up for that loss. Even so, interior line depth will be a major concern if the Rebels hope to repeat as the SEC's top-rated defense.

Kentucky

Head coach Jerry Claiborne probably



Linebacker John Brantley anchors the Georgia defense.

wouldn't want to call it an omen, but one day in spring practice the Wildcats had 11 players injured. If that happens this fall, they might have to cancel the season. Kentucky is that thin.

Start with the offense. No one with any experience is on hand to step in for departed quarterback Bill Ransdell. The line goes one unit deep at best. They are so thin there that they had to take one of their three guards—Brad Myers—and move him to center. The backfield is relying on tailback Al Baker, who is replaying his freshman season after breaking his ankle in the third game last year. He'll team with Mark Higgs, who has not quite reached the level expected of him.

Southeastern

Conference

The defense is in such an upheaval that Claiborne considered scrapping his customary wide-tackle-six alignment. But he decided to stay with it because it best suits the personnel he does have.

The most encouraging part of the team may be the kicking game. Placekicker Joe Worley led the SEC in field goals per game last year, making 17 of 25 attempts.

The Wildcats will be hard-pressed to better last season's 5-5-1 record. The best indication of the Wildcats' hopes may come from Claiborne himself, who lately has emphasized his team's "other" accomplishments: having the most members of the SEC All-Academic Team the past two years and having no off-the-field disciplinary problems.

Mississippi State

It was all going smoothly for Rockey Felker in his first full year as Bulldog head coach—too smoothly as it turns out. MSU was cruising along at 6-1 and carrying a No. 13 ranking when it went into the tank. The Bulldogs lost their final four games by a combined total of 144-12.

"There's no question what happened," Felker recalls. "A lack of depth killed us. By the time November rolled around, we were physically and mentally drained."

Felker's depth figures to be somewhat better this season. But he also will be without his most crucial player-quarterback Don Smith. The SEC total offense leader, Smith gained 740 yards rushing and 1,609 passing, and almost singlehandedly defeated Tennessee in Knoxville. Back-up Mike Davis is the likely starter, but he has seen limited action. Eric Underwood and Albert Williams are both redshirt freshmen. Williams, however, might find a spot in the lineup elsewhere. He is considered the finest athlete on the team, "and maybe a better runner than Don Smith," says Felker. The plan is to try him at running back or cornerback if he falls out of the quarterback race.

If one of the quarterbacks can throw the ball, Fred Hadley will catch it. After averaging 19 yards a catch last season, he is developing into a dangerous wide receiver.

Felker is hoping that David Fair, ineligible as a freshman because of Proposition 48, will be able to carry the load at tailback. Marcus Bush, a tailback last year, is expected to start at fullback.

The tight end spot is encouraging because Jesse Anderson has moved there from outside linebacker. He was one of the big surprises of the spring. The offensive line will have depth and talent, particularly in guard Stan Sims and tackle Garry Frank.

The defense, which switched to a wide-tackle-six alignment during the season, went back to a 3-4 in spring practice. The front seven players have some experience, but the secondary was wiped out by graduation.

Cedric Corse led the team in tackles last year as an inside linebacker and will play outside this year. The Bulldogs are still waiting for junior lineman Anthony Butts, a 270-pounder, to play as his credentials suggest he can.

Vanderbilt

The offense looked sharp in spring practice, but the defense, which has finished last in the SEC in every major category the last two years, looked even shakier than it did in 1986. Whatever progress the offense might have made must be tempered by problems on the other side of the ball.

First, the good news. Eric Jones, a transfer from Northwestern, is the likely starting quarterback. His athletic ability signals a change from an all-out passing game to an attack with more emphasis on running. The Commodores may even use the Wishbone at times.

Head coach Watson Brown considers Jones the best athlete on the team, which is encouraging because, as Brown says wryly, a Vandy quarterback must have three qualities: "You've got to be able to run, pass, and tackle," he says. The Commodores suffered a league-high 23 interceptions last year.

Andy McCarroll, who played line-backer last year as a freshman, moved to fullback and seems to have found a home. He gives Vandy the big, strong, short-yardage runner it has been lacking. Mark Johnson is faster and will compete with McCarroll. Everett Crawford will be the tailback.

Now the bad news. The defense is small and slow. The best player is inside linebacker Chris Gaines, whose younger brother Brad has moved from running back and may start alongside him.

"Despite last year's record [1-10], Vanderbilt can still be made into a legitimate contender in the Southeastern Conference," said Brown. "Last year was a tougher season than I thought it would be, but my faith still hasn't been shaken."

-Thomas O'Toole

Southern

Conference

Great Balance Should Lead To An Exciting Race

HE BALANCE OF POWER HAS shifted in the Southern Conference.

Ruled by Furman and Tennessee-Chattanooga during the past decade, the league saw Appalachian State buck tradition last season and claim its first-ever championship. This year the legitimate contenders have doubled.

Western Carolina, Marshall, and even East Tennessee State—which didn't win a game two years ago—are all threatening to break into the winner's circle for the first time. Life at the top could be crowded.

"It looks like a very wide-open race," said Appalachian State coach Sparky Woods. "The first division may include six teams, good teams that are capable of winning. It's the most balance I've ever seen in the conference."

The Mountaineers enter the fray as the favorite, but just barely. Still loaded with talent, they face a tougher schedule and the loss of John Settle, the most productive running back in league history.

Should they slip, there's always Furman, which has finished on top six times since 1978. Or Chattanooga, three times a champion over the same span. Or . . . take your pick.

Appalachian State

The Mountaineers will open up their offense more this season, mostly out of necessity. In the past, the ball was simply placed in Settle's hands, and he responded by galloping for over 4,400 yards and 45 touchdowns. He was the conference player of the year last season as he led Appalachian State to a 9-2-1 mark and into the Division I-AA playoffs for the first time ever.

Plenty of quality players return—seven starters on offense alone, including quarterback Todd Payton. Though

not flashy, Payton has guided the Mountaineers to 16 victories over the last two seasons and will get a chance to show his passing arm more this time around.

The offensive line remains virtually intact and gets an added lift with the return of tackle James Hardman (6-5, 277). He tore up his knee prior to last season and didn't play, but should get

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Appalachian State
- 2. Furman
- 3. Western Carolina
- 4. East Tennessee State
- 5. Marshail
- 6. Tennessee-Chattanooga
- 7. The Citadel
- 8. Virginia Military Institute

Players To Watch:

Mark Stock, WR, Virginia Military Institute; David Mayfield, TB, Western Carolina; Mike Barber, WR, Marshall; Scott Thompson, DT, The Citadel; Rick Harris, DB, East Tennessee State; Anthony Downs, DT, Appalachian State

Teams To Watch:

Western Carolina, East Tennessee State

Games To Watch:

Sept. 26—Western Carolina at Eastern Tennessee; Oct. 17—Appalachian State at Furman, and Eastern Tennessee at Marshall; Nov. 14—Tennessee-Chattanooga at Marshall; Nov. 21—Appalachian State at Western Carolina

his share of attention this year from opponents and pro scouts alike.

Another pro prospect, tackle Anthony Downs (6-2, 275) is also back at full strength after an Achilles' tendon problem, and will anchor a defense that surrendered just 148 points last year.

The Mountaineers have made an art of special teams play, blocking 15 punts

over the past two seasons, and they also feature an excellent placekicker in Bjorn Nittmo, a left-footer from Sweden.

Furman

The Paladins were 7-3-2 last season and didn't win the league championship for a change, yet they were still invited to the Division I-AA playoffs.

The team tied Appalachian State and Georgia Tech, and led the Southern Conference in total offense and total defense. With 13 starters back, no one would be surprised to find Furman atop the heap at this season's end.

Still, fullback Robbie Gardner, who gave the Paladins a 1,000-yard rusher for the sixth straight year, has graduated, leaving Kennet Goldsmith and John Bagwell to pick up the slack in a ground-oriented attack. Goldsmith ran for 411 yards last season, while Bagwell, a medical redshirt in '86, carried for over 700 yards as a sophomore two years ago.

Quarterback Chris Speaks, who started the final six games last season, will operate behind a line that features a pair of all-conference performers on the left side in guard Alex Albert (6-0, 230) and tackle Mark Brown (6-1, 235).

There are few such question marks on the defensive line, where everybody is back, including all-conference nose guard Phillip Ferguson (6-1, 235). The linebacking corps is led by Darryl Gardner and Jeff Blankenship.

Western Carolina

The Catamounts took their lumps early last season, losing to the likes of Auburn (55-6) and South Carolina (45-24). But they came on strong at the end to finish second in the conference at 5-2. They should have another fine season in '87, led by a rock-solid defense that returns eight starters.

On offense, tailback David Mayfield gives the Catamounts a game-breaker, and wide receiver Vincent Nowell (99 catches in two years) and guard Steve Hall are also outstanding. A large measure of uncertainty lies at quarterback, where senior Kenny Edwards and sophomore Todd Cottrell are battling for the starting job.

Fullback follows quarterback on the list of concerns, and the tight end position won't be the same with the departure of 6-6 All-American Alonzo Carmichael.

The Catamounts have no such worries about placekicking; they have one of the best in the business in senior Kirk Roach. He led the nation last season, connecting on 24 of 28 field goal attempts, and is only 18 field goals away from the all-time Division I-AA record.

East Tennessee State

The Buccaneers made the second-best turnaround in the country in 1986, going 6-5 after 0-10-1 the previous year. The expectations are even higher this season with a wealth of experienced players returning.

Much of the team's sucess will depend on senior quarterback Jeff Morgan, who scored nine touchdowns last season and is adept at running the Veer offense. The Bucs lost fullback Herman Jacobs, the school's all-time leading rusher, but they have capable replacements. The best of the bunch is junior Roosevelt Way, who ran for 598 yards a year ago.

Defensively, ETSU has one of the league's top linebackers in Albert English (6-1, 215) and two excellent secondary men in Rick Harris and Thane Gash. Harris intercepted seven passes last season as a sophomore, returning one 100 yards for a touchdown, while Gash picked off four.

Coach Mike Ayers came up with a beefy recruiting crop in the spring that should give the Buccaneers more muscle up front. Junior college transfer Paul Sherman tips the scales at 280 pounds, and three others are over 250 pounds.

Marshall

The Thundering Herd was second in total offense and total defense last year, but still finished fifth in the conference at 3-3. The Herd should be able to improve on that record this season.

The spark will likely come from cornerback Reggie Giles (who led the league in interceptions with eight), defensive end Cecil Fletcher (6-2, 220), and linebacker John Spellacy (6-2, 220). The three were second-team all-conference selec-

tions and helped hold opposing offenses to 291 yards a game.

Split end Mike Barber proved to be a very effective weapon with a leaguehigh 64 catches and seven TDs his sophomore year. Back to direct Marshall's passing attack are quarterbacks Todd Peterson and John Gregory.

Gregory, a lefty, opened as the starter last year, but he was injured after four games and wasn't able to unseat Peterson, who still holds the starting job.

Tennessee-Chattanooga

The Moccasins are coming off a disappointing campaign that saw them slip to sixth in the conference at 2-4 and 4-7 overall.

Coach Buddy Nix, looking to the future, inserted Brad Patterson as his starting quarterback for the last four games and the Mocs came out with a 2-2 split.

The passing game may come around, but UTC will probably have more early success running the ball behind an offensive line that averages 6-2 and 255 pounds per man. Fullback Steve Caldwell gained 363 yards on the ground last season, and returning tailbacks Andre Lockhart and Darryl Streeter also surpassed 300 yards.

Defensively, the secondary hasn't changed, and a good group of linebackers are on hand, featuring Zack Irvin (6-2, 218), who went to the sidelines with a knee injury in the season opener last year, Willie Greenway (5-11, 202), and sophomore Junior Jackson (6-2, 235).

The Citadel

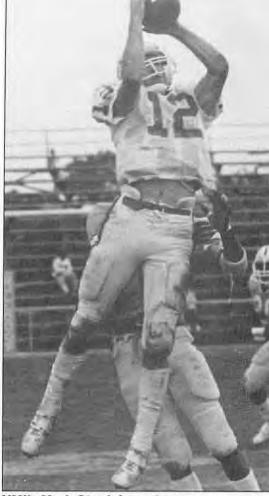
The Bulldogs are sporting a new look now that coach Charlie Taaffe has arrived on the scene.

Taaffe, one of the foremost experts on the Wishbone offense, turned Army into one of the most formidable rushing teams in the country during his three years as its offensive coordinator. He's hoping the offense works at The Citadel, where trying to recruit great I-backs and dropback passers is usually a futile effort.

Sixteen players who started at one time or another on last year's 3-8 squad are still around, but since the defense is also being overhauled, several find themselves in new positions.

Quarterback duties go to junior Tommy Burris, who at 6-3, 215 pounds isn't the classic Wishbone operator, but he has adapted well. Warren McGrier (6-2, 220) is a bruising fullback who should like the switch.

The defense is spearheaded by Scott Thompson (6-5, 270), an All-America



VMI's Mark Stock is perhaps the league's top athlete.

tackle who recorded an incredible 183 tackles last season.

Virginia Military Institute

The Keydets last won a share of the conference crown in 1977, but that seems like light years ago. Last season they slumped to 1-10, their worst finish ever, and significant improvement doesn't appear likely.

Though the defense returns 10 starters, it's essentially the same crew that allowed 412 yards and 33 points a game last year. Offensively, the Keydets weren't much better, managing just 12 points a game, but they do possess a quality quarterback in Dave Brown and perhaps the best all-around performer in the conference in split end Mark Stock.

Last season Stock caught 45 passes for 1,123 yards (the 24.96-yard per catch average is a I-AA record). He had touchdown catches of 93, 85, 77, 76, 76, and 72 yards.

Depth is a problem as eight full- or part-time starters didn't return to school for one reason or another. Among the group is linebacker Andy Titone, the team's leading tackler last season, center Sam Tyus, and kicker Jim Wall.

—Kelly Hodge

Southwest

Conference

Razorbacks Will Stop Aggies' Two-Year Run

MU WON'T BE ALLOWED TO compete in the Southwest Conference this fall, but the SWC remains a nine-team league, what with the eight regulars and the team of NCAA investigators that seems to live there.

The NCAA has the biggest club of the bunch and keeps using it on everyone. Four SWC teams have been bagged by David Berst's boys and two more may be on probation by the time the season starts.

SMU, the first victim of the NCAA's new death penalty, will sit out this season by force and next season by choice. TCU, Texas Tech, and Texas are serving out varying sentences and almost everyone else has conducted internal investigations, some more serious than others. Texas A&M turned in a 2,000page, eight-pound report to the NCAA that included a student-athlete manual, recruiting manual, athletic dormitory policies, diagrams of the fire escapes in the dorms, and the football parking lot plan. When the NCAA visits A&M, investigators now know where to park, where to go in case of fire, and how to act once they get there.

The rest of the league, unfortunately, didn't know how to act when it got to bowl games last season. What was supposed to be the strongest SWC contingent in years went 1-3 in bowls.

Now SMU is gone, and so are most of the better players in the league. The most noticeable absence is former Texas A&M quarterback Kevin Murray, who set most of the career passing records in the SWC and then passed up his senior season of eligibility for the NFL. Rumors persist that A&M coach Jackie Sherrill chased Murray away before the NCAA could declare him ineligible, but Murray says it was just time to try the pros.

Murray's early departure makes Ar-

kansas the favorite to break A&M's twoyear reign atop the SWC.

Arkansas

Coach Ken Hatfield has promised to do two things to spruce up his Wish-

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Arkansas
- 2. Texas A&M
- 3. Texas
- 4. Texas Christian
- 5. Texas Tech
- 6. Baylor
- 7. Houston
- 8. Rice

Players to Watch:

Tony Cherico, NG, Arkansas; Joel Porter, OT, Baylor; Gary McGuire, LB, Houston; Russell Moses, OT, Rice; Eric Metcalf, RB, Texas; Paul Jetton, OG, Texas; Keith Woodside, RB, Texas A&M; Clint Hailey, C, TCU; Wayne Walker, WR, Texas Tech

Teams to Watch:

TCU, Texas

Games To Watch:

Oct. 17—Texas at Arkansas; Nov. 14— Arkansas at Texas A&M; Nov. 21—Texas A&M at TCU; Nov. 26—Texas at Texas A&M

bone-dry offense: senior quarterback Greg Thomas will pass and pitch more often.

The Razorbacks gave the ball to the fullback up the middle most of last season in what was one of the SWC's most tedious offenses. Thomas spent all spring working on his passing, and now he has junior halfbacks Joe John-

son and James Rouse to pitch to instead of running it up the middle, which fullback Sammy Van Dyke will do occasionally.

Rebuilding the offensive line was Arkansas' primary concern, where 6-4, 350-pound junior guard Freddie Childress is the anchor. Also returning to the line is senior tackle Chris Bequette and senior center Bryan White, with sophomore Jim Mabry moving in at the other tackle and senior John Stitten starting at guard.

Replacing wide receiver James Shibest won't be difficult since the Razorbacks hardly ever threw to him. Senior Donnie Centers is an acrobatic receiver, and sophomore Billy Winston will start at tight end.

Defense is the Razorbacks' strong point, where nine starters return from the only SWC team that beat league-champion A&M last season. Only an outside linebacker and cornerback are missing.

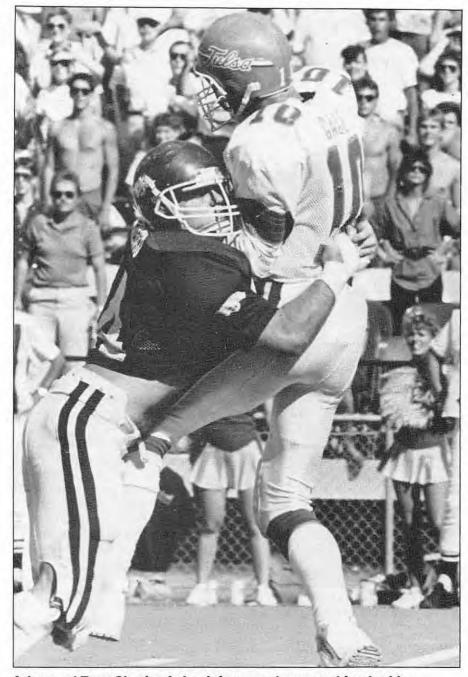
Nose guard Tony Cherico, a three-year starter and all-everything candidate, returns to lead the solid front line.

He will be joined by defensive end Albert Harris, a sophomore, and tackles Wayne Martin, a junior, and senior David Schell. Senior Steve Jones will replace the departed David Dudley at outside linebacker, with seniors Rickey Williams and Erik Whitted at the other linebacker spots.

Back-up quarterback John Bland, a junior, was moved to cornerback in the spring and will start. Junior Richard Brothers returns at the other corner, with junior Odis Lloyd back at rover and junior Steve Atwater playing safety.

Texas A&M

Losing Murray may keep the Aggies from winning a school-record three consecutive SWC championships. But it also



Arkansas' Tony Cherico is back for more bonecrushing tackles.

may mean the development of the Aggies' next great quarterback.

Lance Pavlas, a redshirt freshman, can be as good as Murray or better, Aggie coaches say. All he needs is time. Senior Craig Stump, who started three years ago when Murray was hurt, should give Pavlas enough time to develop before he takes over.

The Aggies made up for the loss of seven starters on defense and five on offense with one of the best recruiting classes in the nation. If running backs Randy Simmons or Darren Lewis can qualify academically, either could start along with senior Keith Woodside, the most versatile back in the SWC.

Iunior Rod Harris returns at wide re-

ceiver and either sophomore Mickey Washington or Percy Waddle, who was academically ineligible last season because of Proposition 48, likely will start as the other receiver. Gary Coster, a junior college transfer, will replace the departed Rod Bernstine at tight end.

The offensive line will be led by senior tackle Louis Cheek, junior center Matt Wilson, junior guards Trace McGuire and Jerry Fontenot, and senior tackle Tony Bartley.

The biggest loss on defense was at linebacker, where all four starters are gone. They will be replaced by their back-ups—juniors Adam Bob, Basil Jackson, John Roper, and Dana Batiste.

Senior Sammy O'Brient returns at

nose guard, flanked by tackles Terry Price, a sophomore, and Guy Broom, a senior.

Except for the loss of cornerback James Flowers, the secondary returns intact. Senior cornerback Chet Brooks, junior strong safety Alex Morris, and senior free safety Kip Corrington return, with junior Tony Jones replacing Flowers.

Texas

Two things happened for the first time in 30 years at Texas last season, and they were not coincidence. The Longhorns had their first losing season since 1956 and they fired their head coach.

Fred Akers took the blame for poor recruiting classes and was a victim of a rash of injuries that made the Longhorns 5-6. New coach David McWilliams, formerly Akers' defensive coordinator, inherits a team that has more potential and, Longhorn fans hope, a little more luck.

Senior Bret Stafford is one of the most able and experienced quarterbacks in the SWC. He will be running a pro-style offense highlighting the running and receiving talents of running back/wide receiver Eric Metcalf, a junior. The other running backs will be either juniors Darron Norris or Charles Hunter, who sat out the spring after arthroscopic surgery on his knee.

Tight end Tim McCray was ruled unfit to play by team physicians after a neck injury last season, so sophomore Stephen Clark has taken his place. The offensive line returns only All-SWC guard Paul Jetton and center Alan Champagne, both seniors. Junior Ed Cunningham, formerly a defensive tackle, will start at one offensive tackle spot, and sophomore Charles Seafous, a 6-6, 308-pounder, will start at the other. The other guard will be senior Omar Saleh.

Seniors Kevin Nelson and Gabe Johnson will be the wide receivers, although junior Tony Jones will also play considerably.

On defense, McWilliams is uncomfortable with depth at defensive tackle. McWilliams says Steve Llewellyn (6-6, 275), a junior, and Ken Hackemack (6-9, 265), a sophomore, are good, but there is no depth behind them. Senior Thomas Aldridge returns at one defensive end and senior Bobby Duncum, a former linebacker, has moved in at the other end.

Injuries at linebacker were the main problem last year for Texas' defense, but it allowed the Longhorns to earn some experience. Senior Britt Hager returns in the middle after two injuries last season, sophomore Duane Duncum slides to the outside, and either senior Lee Beckelman or junior Lee Brockman will start at the other linebacker.

Two part-time starters return at strong safety, so McWilliams moved senior John Hagy to free safety and made senior Gerard Senegal a full-time starter at strong safety. Senior James Lott, who redshirted last season, and senior Tony Griffin, formerly a safety, will be at the corners.

TCU

Jim Wacker, who has had some of the best recruiting classes in the league, says it is time to quit making excuses and produce a winner.

The Frogs went 3-9 last season, their only SWC victory coming over last-place Houston. Wacker blamed it on youth and inexperience, neither of which they have anymore. Twenty-two players have started at one time or another and the Frogs have 56 returning lettermen from a year ago.

Most of that experience is on defense, where the Frogs' three best players—seniors Kent Tramel (nose guard), David Spradlin (defensive end), and Floyd Terrell (linebacker)—were redshirted so they wouldn't go out on a probation-tapped loser. Without those three, the defense was the worst in the league. But Wacker has them back and he hired Rick Johnson, formerly the coach of Baylor's All-SWC secondary unit, as his defensive coordinator.

Johnson switched the Frogs from a 5-2 to a 4-3, with junior Tracy Simien moving from nose guard to end and Tramel switching to tackle. Junior Frank Hawkins is the other tackle.

The linebackers are Terrell, senior Gregg Jones, and junior Paul Llewellyn, who played minor league baseball for three years. Backing them up in the secondary are junior free safety Falanda Newton, senior rover Garland Littles, and cornerbacks Andre Spencer, a junior college transfer, and junior Tony Brooks.

Junior Scott Ankrom returns at quarterback after sitting out most of last season with hamstring problems. The running backs will be senior Tony Jeffery and either sophomores Tony Darthard or Tommy Palmer, with junior Scott Bednarski at fullback.

Junior tight end Ricky Stone, who sat out last season with a broken wrist, returns with an offensive line of senior tackle Brian Brazil, junior guard Jess Williams, senior center Clint Hailey, sophomore guard Mike Bulla, and sophomore tackle Jeff Hopkins.

Southwest

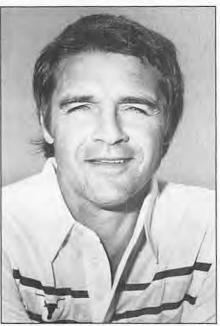
Conference

At wide receiver will be Jarrod Delaney; Reggie Davis will start at flex end.

Texas Tech

The Red Raiders have their third head coach in the last three years, but at least this year's new coach, Spike Dykes, is a familiar face, having coached Tech's defense.

Dykes retained the 4-3 defense, along with the wild-eyed offense that featured



New coach David McWilliams hopes to revive the Longhorns.

the best set of receivers in the league, and much of the optimism that was built after Tech finished the regular season 7-4 and went to a bowl game for the first time since 1977.

Tech's corps of tiny receivers—called the Smurfs—starts with 5-9 junior Wayne Walker, an All-SWC receiver, and finishes with junior Tyrone Thurman, who is the smallest player in NCAA Division I football at 5-3, 130 pounds. The Raiders also have 5-9 junior Eddy Anderson, who has the best hands on the team and "can catch BBs in a hailstorm," quarterback Billy Joe Tolliver said.

Tolliver, a junior, will also be throwing to junior tight end Phil Young and working with 1986 SWC Newcomer of the Year James Gray at tailback and junior Ervin Farris at fullback. Protecting Tolliver will be tackles Charles Odiorne, a sophomore, and David Stickels, a senior. The guards will be seniors Mike McBride and

Jeff Keith, with senior Bryan Lee at center.

Six starters return on defense, including big-play linebacker Michael Johnson, a senior. But Merv Scurlark, who was counted on at safety, had knee surgery in the spring and may not be able to play this fall.

Senior defensive end Ricky Boysaw, senior tackle Artis Jackson, and junior tackle Desmond Royal return in the line. They will be joined at end by former linebacker James Mosley, who was the most valuable defensive player in the Independence Bowl with three sacks. The linebackers will be Johnson, senior Brian Rollins, and junior Tony Durden.

Senior Eric Everett has been moved back from safety to cornerback, and senior Lemuel Stinson, formerly a wide receiver, is the starter at the other corner. Junior Boyd Cowan and sophomore Bruce Perkins will start at the safeties.

Baylor

No SWC team lost as many good players as Baylor, which may have had its best team ever last season, finishing at 9-3.

The Bears lost nine defensive starters, including All-America free safety Thomas Everett, and eight on offense, including veteran quarterback Cody Carlson. Carlson will be the most difficult to replace; but to make the transition easier, coach Grant Teaff says he may go back to the shuttle system at quarterback.

Sophomore Ed Lovell will be the Bears' throwing quarterback and redshirt freshman Brad Goebel may be the option quarterback. The halfbacks will be sophomore Jeff Murray and junior Charles Perry.

Baylor long has been noted for its offensive linemen, and Teaff says he may have his best ever in tackle Joel Porter, a 6-4, 274-pound senior and the only returning starter up front. The rest of the senior line will be Jeff Palmer and Errol Ware at guard, Terry Hancock at tackle, and Paul Stuart at center.

Senior Kobe Fornes returns at tight end, senior Ben Beker will start at flanker, and the split end will be senior Matt Clark, a former All-SWC receiver.

The biggest losses were on defense, where senior defensive tackle Russell Sheffield and sophomore cornerback Ray Crockett are the only returning starters.

James Francis, younger brother of former All-SWC cornerback Ron Francis, is expected to become a standout at linebacker, where he will be joined by fellow sophomores Gary Hays and Gary Joe Kinne. The secondary will have sophomores Robert Blackmon at strong safety and Mike Welch at free safety, with Crockett at one corner and junior Norris Blount, son of former Steelers defensive back Mel Blount, at the other corner.

Houston

For the first time in 23 years, there will be no Veer offense in Houston. Bill Yeoman resigned after a 1-10 season and Jack Pardee was hired to bring in his Runand-Shoot offense, which he popularized with the Houston Gamblers of the defunct USFL.

The first thing Pardee had to do was bring in some passing quarterbacks, and he did. The winner in the derby appears to be David Dacus, a transfer from Cicso (Texas) Junior College. He will be throwing to one of four revolving sets of wide receivers, led by seniors Jet Brown and Dwayne LeBlanc.

Senior Sloan Hood will be the S-back (the "S" stands for Super), the lone set-back in Pardee's offense. Blocking for him will be senior center Tim Britton, senior guards William Gant and Roosevelt Johnson, sophomore tackle Byron Forsythe, and junior tackle Paul Hearn.

The Cougars have shifted from a 5-2 to a 4-3 defense, where the strength is at linebacker. Seniors Gary McGuire and Robert Harper will be joined at linebacker by former defensive end Derrick Hoskins, a senior.

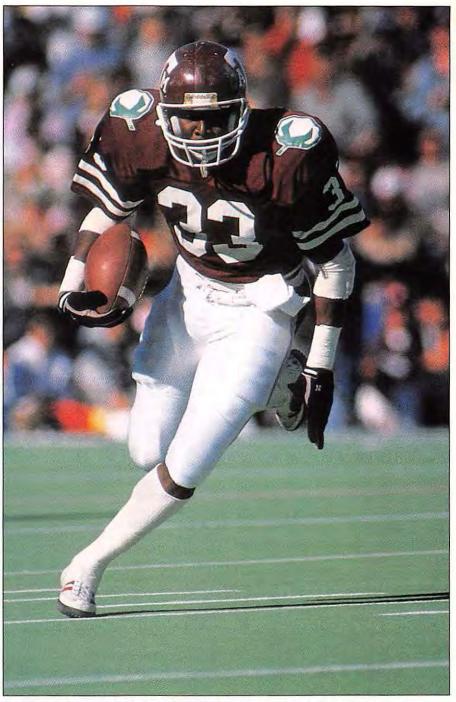
The line will have former nose guard Glenn Montgomery, a sophomore, at one tackle, and 6-9, 300-pound Terrance Sanders, a transfer from Wichita State, at the other. The ends likely will be sophomore Alfred Oglesby and junior Craig Veasey.

The Cougars also should be improved in the secondary, where 6-5, 225-pound Randy Thornton will be a four-year starter at strong safety. Senior Robert Jones returns at free safety, with sophomore Johnny Jackson at one corner and either senior Isreal Martin or junior David Martel at the other.

Rice

Jerry Berndt won one fewer game (four) in his first season at Rice than the Owls had won in their previous five seasons combined. But the Owls will be hard-pressed to duplicate that in a league that is improved at the bottom, if not at the top.

Most of the Owls' losses from last year were on defense, where all the linebackers and two-thirds of the defensive line are gone. Senior Jeff Thomas returns



A&M running back Keith Woodside had 1,172 total yards last year.

at defensive tackle and will be joined by senior Eric Johnson, a 6-7, 270-pounder, and either junior Dexter Scott or senior Joel Giddens at nose guard.

The new linebackers will be senior Kyle Falk and juniors Brad McKay, Will Hollas, and Jeff Hood, a former offensive lineman. The Owls will have more experience in the secondary, where they return junior William McClay and sophomore Everett Coleman at cornerback, and junior Roy Thompson at rover. Junior Brent Knapton likely will start at safety.

Both of the Owls quarterbacks—senior Mark Comalander and junior Quentis Roper—return and will split time again. They will throw to receivers Chris Nixon, a junior, and senior Keith Lewis. David Mangold, a back-up last year to departed Ken Majors, will start at tight end.

All of the Owls' offensive line returns this season except one tackle. The group is led by senior tackle Russell Moses, whom Berndt says should be an All-SWC player. Sophomore Karl Schraer and junior David Maberry will be the guards, with junior college transfer Mike Gonzales playing the other tackle.

-Kevin Sherrington

Conference

The Sooners And Huskers Battle For League And National Honors

HE BOZ LIVES ON IN THE BIG 8 Conference. Only without the props. And, of all places, in Lincoln, Neb.

No, Brian Bosworth hasn't gone completely wacko. Where Bosworth left off on his way to the NFL, Nebraska defensive end Broderick Thomas has picked up, wagging his colorful tongue in a manner that would make The Boz proud. And, perhaps, leading his low-key coach, Tom Osborne, to an early retirement.

Thomas on Oklahoma's top-ranked defense: "To be honest, they have one or two outstanding athletes on defense. The rest are just run-of-the-mill players."

Thomas on last year's fourth-quarter collapse and 20-17 loss to the Sooners in Lincoln: "We learned to take no prisoners and have no mercy. That's the only thing it showed me. We were up 17-7 and we might have let up on them. We're going to come back and bring 60 minutes of wood this time. I don't like to think about Oklahoma right now. I start to get so emotional that I break out in a sweat."

And Thomas on Nebraska's inability to win a Big 8 title since 1983: "I still wear my high school ring. It's a pretty ring, but it's not a Big 8 or national championship ring. Sometimes I look at it and I don't want to wear it. It's about time to make my hand look pretty."

After Nebraska's 30-10 Sugar Bowl victory over LSU on January 1, Thomas and several other Huskers declared their team immediate contenders for this year's national championship. This attitude puzzles their rivals to the south, who beat Nebraska for a third straight Orange Bowl bid and are ranked No. 1 in nearly every preseason poll.

"The way they have been talking, they won the game [last year]," Oklahoma senior linebacker Dante Jones said. "They've been telling recruits that they're going to win the national championship. But you know what? They don't have one player who's ever beaten

us. The only people at Nebraska who know what it's like to beat us are their coaches. They said, 'This [Nebraska's Memorial Stadium] is our house and we have the key.' Well, I guess Oklahoma has the spare key."

Oklahoma returns more than 16 reg-

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Oklahoma
- 2. Nebraska
- 3. Colorado
- 4. Oklahoma State
- 5. Iowa State
- 6. Missouri
- 7. Kansas State
- 8. Kansas

Players To Watch:

Thurman Thomas, RB, Oklahoma St.; Broderick Thomas, DE, Nebraska; Curt Koch, DT, Colorado; Eric Mitchell, RB, Oklahoma; Robert Delpino, RB, Missouri; Jamelle Holieway, QB, Oklahoma

Teams To Watch:

Nebraska, Oklahoma State, Missouri

Games To Watch:

Sept. 12—Baylor at Missouri; Sept. 26— Nebraska at Arizona State; Nov. 14—Nebraska at Colorado; Nov. 21—Oklahoma at Nebraska

ulars—all of whom have national championship rings from 1985 and helped the Sooners finish No. 3 last year. Nebraska returns 10 starters and the Huskers' fastest defense in years. Both expect to be camping on the No. 1 doorstep in August—and on January 1. The road to the 1987 national championship could go through Lincoln on November 21, the day these two teams meet.

"They say there could be a World War III, but it's not supposed to happen," Thomas said. "This is going to happen. It's on the schedule."

Oklahoma

After exiting the No. 1 picture in September last year, the Sooners may have the easiest road to the top of any contender in the country. Except for the annual Red River Rage with Texas in Dallas, the non-conference schedule is a crime: North Texas State, North Carolina at Norman, and a September 26 date at Tulsa, which filled the hole left by SMU. With such an easy schedule, last year's numbers—404.7 yards rushing per game (No. 1 in the nation), 473.6 total yards (No. 2), and 42.4 points (No. 1)—are sure to be inflated.

Tight end Keith Jackson was the difference in the Big 8 race last year, catching a touchdown pass and setting up the winning field goal with a circus catch in the final three minutes at Nebraska. He may be the most valuable player in college football, except for one small detail: he hardly ever gets the ball. This year he'll get it less than ever, even though five of his 14 receptions last year went for touchdowns. Jackson, a 6-3 senior, will not catch enough passes to even be considered as a top candidate for the Heisman Trophy.

And why should he? Oklahoma's offensive line is, in the opinion of many observers, its best ever. The four returnees are seniors Jon Phillips (6-4, 275) and Greg Johnson (6-4, 295) at tackle and senior Mark Hutson (6-4, 280) and junior Anthony Phillips (6-3, 280) at guard. Halfbacks Anthony Stafford (junior) and Patrick Collins (senior) and fullback Lydell Carr (senior) are a year older and will be joined by redshirt Damon Stell. Determined junior Eric Mitchell has moved to halfback from quarterback, where he was wasting his time and talent behind Jamelle Holieway, the top option QB in the country. As a back-up quarterback last year, Mitchell rushed for 418 yards.

The 5-9 Holieway, still just a junior, was second in the league in rushing last year with 811 yards. He missed spring



drills with a broken thumb suffered in a freak accident in his dorm room. Freshman Charles Thompson, who was the only quarterback in the spring, probably will be rewarded with a lot of playing time this fall.

A year ago, Oklahoma was concerned about the hole at nose guard left by the departure of Tony Casillas. All the Sooners did was lead the nation in every defensive category. Now, the holes are left at linebacker by Bosworth and Paul Migliazzo. Problem? What problem?

Jones, an alternate starter with Migliazzo last year, will replace Bosworth—as evidenced by his winning the Orange Bowl MVP award in the Sooners' 42-8 victory over Arkansas. Safeties David Vickers and Ricky Dixon, both all-conference choices last year, hold down the secondary. Ends Darrell Reed and Troy Johnson are both seniors and anchor a line that must find two new tackles. That, plus the hope that punter Todd Thomsen can replace record-holder Tim Lashar, are the only question marks.

"Oklahoma may have the best team they've had in many, many years," Colorado coach Bill McCartney said. "They are not lacking for anything. I mean, there's no weakness there. They have the greatest offensive line they've ever had. This is the team they've pointed to for the last several years. They'll be shooting

for the [national] title. Anything less than that will be a disappointment to them."

Nebraska

From August, when the Huskers lost senior I-back Doug DuBose for the season with a knee injury, to the NCAA complimentary ticket penalty in September, to a shocking upset loss at Colorado in October, to another frustrating loss to OU in November, 1986 was just one big headache for Nebraska coach Tom Osborne.

Thank goodness 1987 came and brought a Sugar Bowl victory, led by an MVP performance from quarterback Steve Taylor. That left Osborne with a fresh outlook toward this season and another clear shot at his first national title. Staying healthy and getting past UCLA at home and Arizona State at Tempe will be important preludes to the conference schedule.

"I'm not predicting anything, but we should be the kind of team that can play with most anybody," Osborne said. "You never know what's going to happen on a given day. You never know about injuries. We're going to have to win the close games. If we can win those, we'll be OK."

Translated: Watch out for the Huskers and Taylor, a 5-11 junior who established himself as the No. 1 quarterback last season. The San Diego product is a run-

Oklahoma's Jamelle Holieway is the country's top option QB.

pass threat who could take over the league's total offense lead after finishing fifth last season (808 yards passing, 537 running) and having the league's worst completion rate (41.9%). The Sugar Bowl, in which he came back after being benched in the first half, may have been his wake-up call to stardom.

With the loss of DuBose, Nebraska's No. 2 ranked running game had its ups and downs last year as several new faces gained experience. Now senior I-back Keith Jones, (the league's leading rusher at 83.0 yards per game, despite a lateseason thumb injury), junior Tyreese Knox (419 yards), and wingback Dana Brinson (the Big 8 leader in all-purpose running last year) are ready. The offensive line will be reloaded, not rebuilt.

For once, the fastest Huskers may be on defense. Thomas, a 6-2, 235-pound junior, and senior tackle Lee Jones run 4.7 for the 40-yard dash, while senior monster Brian Washington and senior tackle Neil Smith (6-6, 255), the fastest defensive lineman ever at Nebraska, both have 4.6 speed. LeRoy Etienne, one of two new linebackers, also finishes in 4.7.

Speed will have to make up for inexperience with seven new starters in the lineup. Senior McCathron Clayton has



Nebraska has a squad that should compete for the national title.

moved over to cornerback from quarterback in the spring. Junior nose guard Lawrence Pete (6-2, 280) will replace All-American Danny Noonan, having already beaten Noonan's Nebraska benchpress record by lifting 495 pounds.

Colorado

Last October the score 20-10 flashed on the Folsom Field scoreboard all night after a victory that will live forever as a signal of the return of Colorado football. After a tumultuous decade of probation, embarrassment, and last-place finishes, the Buffs had beaten Nebraska and finished second in the Big 8. But coach McCartney has a sobering message to those still drunk on one game.

"Just because we beat them one time doesn't mean that we think we've caught them or reached any pinnacles," McCartney said. "It's just a case of us striving to continue to improve and make progress each year, and I think we're doing that. We're competitive. On a given day, we

can play a good team on even terms. Now, whether we can sustain that over the course of a season is the challenge for this team."

The first challenge came in the spring, when senior defensive tackle Curt Koch and senior linebacker Don DeLuzio were injured by a hit-and-run driver while on spring break on South Padre Island, Texas. DeLuzio, the team's leading tackler last year, suffered a broken leg and is expected to return this season. But Koch's injuries were more serious. He suffered torn cartilage in both knees and, worse, had a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. The 6-8, 265pound Koch, considered a serious All-America candidate, chose to bypass surgery that would have held him out of the 1987 season and will hope a summer of rehabilitation can get him ready. With this duo, Colorado, which returns eight starters each on offense and defense, might be able to match Oklahoma and Nebraska's defense. The line includes

6-foot Kyle Rappold, "the trash compactor," who last year came of age as a flaky personality and is now ready to attract attention on the field. Strong safety Mickey Pruitt, a two-time all-conference pick, may be the best defensive back in the league. Senior punter Barry Helton, who could become the Big 8's first three-time consensus All-American this season, aided the defense's cause last year with a net average of 42.3.

Offensively, the Buffs should be improved, if only because Proposition 48 holdouts Sal Aunese (quarterback) and J. J. Flannigan (running back), will make their imprints on the Wishbone after sitting out 1986. Aunese figures to push senior quarterback Mark Hatcher, a maligned passer who was the eighth-leading rusher (552) in the Big 8 last year. He almost lost his job to sophomore Marc Walters, who will miss the 1987 season with a knee injury.

Oklahoma State

The only thing that kept Pat Jones' Cowboys in the upper division with a 4-3 conference record was a mucky bottom division for them to beat up on. An inexperienced line on both sides, a horrible start by junior quarterback Ronnie Williams, and a knee injury that slowed rushing star Thurman Thomas were all too much to overcome.

But now those linemen are older and Oklahoma State's skill positions feature the most talent that Jones has seen since he arrived in 1979. The Cowboys won't bother Oklahoma or Nebraska, but they should erase the nightmare of last year's 6-5 record that included losses to Tulsa and Houston.

Much depends on a healthy Thomas, who left the 1986 Heisman Trophy chase in the spring when he injured his left knee in a basketball pickup game. Thomas, wearing a graphite brace and unable to make his cuts, rushed for 741 yards on 173 carries with just four touchdowns. In his four-touchdown performance in the 1987 spring game, Thomas showed the form of his All-America 1985 season, in which he rushed for 1,650 yards and 15 touchdowns on 327 carries.

The Cowboys have an abundance of talent around Thomas, including 5-11 sophomore quarterback Mike Gundy, a dashing improviser who was last year's Big 8 Offensive Newcomer of the Year. An outstanding group of receivers is led by the league's best receiver: junior split and Hart Lee Dykes, who led the Big 8 and was 14th nationally with 60 catches for 814 yards and seven touchdowns.

The offense will have to score more than last year (16.5 points per game) to help a defense that has questions despite returning seven starters. Cornerback Melvin Gilliam is the only returning starter in the secondary.

Iowa State

A two-year probation by the NCAA for 34 violations, six players arrested for various offenses, season ticket sales down by 27,000, and just 51 players on scholarship. When Iowa State went looking for a coach after firing Jim Criner, it needed either a miracle man or a comedian. It probably got both in Jim Walden, formerly of Washington State.

"I'm afraid I do know exactly what to expect," Walden laughed. "I expect to probably get whipped some. But who knows? We're not going to worry about it. We're going to get the kids to play with a certain amount of dignity and pride and try to have some fun."

Walden, who signed a five-year pact for \$85,000 per season, brings a reputation of fun, honesty, and good coaching to the Big 8. The man who once called USC "crooks" beat the Trojans last year 34-14, and he led his undermanned Cougars to a 21-21 tie with Arizona State. In nine years at isolated Pullman, Wash., he was 30-37-4 with three of the school's six winning seasons over the last 20 years.

But this is Walden's toughest challenge. The horrid numbers situation was a result of attrition and high junior college recruiting by Criner. The situation is such that Walden asked for walk-on help from the student body before spring drills and got 66 responses. This fall, some 15 of those brave souls will help out on special teams and add depth.

Criner didn't leave the cupboard completely bare. Senior receivers Tom Schulting and Donnie Ross and junior tackle Keith Sims (6-3, 291) highlight an offense with five starters returning. Whether junior Derek DeGennaro or senior Brett Sadek (a former Minnesota starter in 1983-84) replaces departed record-holder Alex Espinoza, the quarterback will be inexperienced. Returning linebackers Chris Moore, Darrin Trieb, and Anthony Hoskins give Walden a starting point on defense.

Missouri

Woody Widenhofer said if he had been smart, he would have made the switch a year ago. Better late than never. Widenhofer had some of the top offensive personnel in the Big 8 last year, but the Tigers offense averaged just 293 yards per game (94th in the country). And he

has had a 4-18 record in two seasons as Missouri's head coach.

Voilá. Presenting the Missouri Flexbone, for all the right reasons. Patterned after the passing Wishbone used by Arkansas and Air Force, the offense will take advantage of the option talents and arm of junior quarterback Ronnie Cameron, who turned the corner for 68 yards for one touchdown against Texas last season and burned Kansas all day for Missouri's third victory. And it will not be a complicated system for a young offensive line to learn.

Spring practice proved that the Tigers have the backs for it. Besides senior half-back Darrell Wallace, who has rushed for 1,992 yards the past two seasons, Widenhofer discovered versatile halfbacks in senior Robert Delpino (a receiver last season) and 6-4, 220-pound freshman redshirt Mike Logan. The fullback is junior Tommy Stowers.

But the spring also showed that Widenhofer's important third season could hinge on injuries. Missouri's depth is weak on both sides of the ball. There is no big-play threat behind Cameron, who has had an injury-plagued career.

If the offense can control the ball, that will help a defense that returns nine starters from the group that allowed 416 yards per game (last in the league). Finally, there is more speed with newcomers Jerald Fletcher and Ben Corl at linebacker and former outside linebacker Steve Vandegrift (255 pounds) moving to the defensive line.

Missouri is the mystery team in the Big 8. Will the Flexbone do for them what it did for Colorado in 1985? Will heralded freshman running back Tony VanZant, who has not had contact since injuring his knee in a high school All-Star game during the summer of 1986, make an impact? Widenhofer needs to show progress with at least four victories, and the difference could be the accurate foot of senior kicker Tom Whelihan, who booted a Big 8 record 62-yard field goal against Colorado last year.

Kansas State

Call him crazy, but don't call Kansas State coach Stan Parrish patient. Parrish went out last winter and signed 18 junior college players to improve on the Wildcats' size, speed, depth, and 2-9 record. And he plans to do so again next year if necessary.

"The Juco kids we got are older kids," Parrish said. "They are more physical, only have a couple years to play, and have more at stake. I think they will make us more combative. I don't think

we had any alternative. I'm not worried about five years from now. I'm worried about us being a better team next fall and every fall after that."

Those worries could be put to rest if quarterback Gary Swim, a junior transfer from Snow (Utah) Community College, pans out. Swim, who passed for more than 1,600 yards and threw 11 touchdowns in eight games last year, is expected to replace Randy Williams, a junior who left K-State after finishing the 1986 season on the bench.

Parrish, however, wants to tone down his passing offense after watching his players get physically punished by Big 8 teams week after week last year. That's where several new Juco linemen and senior tailback Tony Jordan come in. Jordan had 738 of his team's 1,418 rushing yards last year, including a school single-game record 218 yards on 35 carries against Iowa State. Kansas State's defense, led by linebacker Grady Newton and sophomore strong safety Erick Harper, should be stronger than it was a year ago.

Kansas

Kansas coach Bob Valesente is mad. Why not? In his first year he suffered embarrassing losses to rivals Kansas State (29-12) and Missouri (48-0). Most Jayhawk fans couldn't tell you whom Kansas beat (Utah State, Indiana State, and Southern Illinois). This year the Jayhawks, 3-8 last season, are picked to settle back into last place in the Big 8, something Valesente would like to change quickly.

"We've got to get much tougher than we have been in the past," Valesente said. "We can't expect to compete in this league the way we played last year. It was a disgrace."

A new pro-style offense, based on running out of the I-formation, has been implemented to toughen up an offense that was one of the nation's worst last year. The key to the whole season will be the availability of an injury-plagued offensive line: Senior tackles Jim Davis and Bob Pieper are coming off injuries, while senior Bryan Howard missed 1986 with academic problems. Defensively Kansas should be better, with eight starters returning.

The biggest problems: Neither fifthyear senior Mike Orth nor sophomore Kelly Donohoe, who replaced Orth after eight games last year, has run away with the quarterback position. Same with sophomore kickers Mac Smith and Louis Klemp.

-Tom Shatel

Big Sky

Conference

Nevada-Reno Will Lead The Big Sky Pack Again

NE OF THE FEW FEATHERS not found in Nevada-Reno coach Chris Ault's cap is a national championship. Despite reaching the semifinals of the Division I-AA playoffs five times over the last 10 years, the Wolf Pack have yet to bring home the crown. In fact, four out of the five teams Nevada-Reno has lost to in the playoffs have gone on to become the national champion.

With Ault's track record—he's never coached a team with a losing record at any level—it shouldn't be too much longer before his team wins a national title. Since his arrival at UNR in 1976, he's posted a 94-36-1 record for a .721 winning percentage. And over the last two years, his teams have registered a 21-1 regular-season record, 24-3 overall.

Nevada-Reno

Led by the backfield nicknamed "F-Troop," the Wolf Pack are the odds-on favorites to defend their title. Junior Charvez Foger and senior Lucious Floyd form the best running duo in the conference, and should offset the loss of quarterback Eric Beavers, the Big Sky's Most Valuable Player last season.

Last year Floyd led the Big Sky in rushing with 1,066 yards, while Foger led the year before with 1,241 yards.

Junior college transfer Jim Zaccheo is the leading candidate to take over at quarterback for the Beavers, and wide receiver Tony Logan, with 41 catches for 703 yards last season, should pick up some of the slack left by the departure of last year's leading receiver, Bryan Calder.

Defensively, the Wolf Pack must replace four all-conference players, including All-America outside linebacker Henry Rollins. But eight returning starters should neutralize their loss. Marty Zendejas, the Big Sky's all-time leading scorer, will again give UNR the best kicking game in the league.

Idaho

Idaho made it to the NCAA Division I-

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. Nevada-Reno
- 2. Idaho
- 3. Northern Arizona
- 4. Montana
- 5. Weber State
- 6. Idaho State
- 7. Eastern Washington
- 8. Boise State
- 9. Montana State

Players to Watch:

Charvez Foger, RB, Nevada-Reno; Lucious Floyd, RB, Nevada-Reno; Marty Zendejas, PK, Nevada-Reno; Greg Wyatt, QB, Northern Arizona; Larry Clarkson, OT, Montana; Sean Sanders, RB, Weber State; Gino Mariani, QB, Idaho State; Pete Kwiatkowski, DT, Boise State; Jamie Townsend, RB, Eastern Washington

Teams To Watch:

Eastern Washington, Northern Arizona

Games To Watch:

Sept. 26—Nevada-Reno at Montana, and Idaho at Northern Arizona; Oct. 17—Nevada-Reno at Idaho; Nov. 7—Eastern Washington at Weber State; Nov. 21—Nevada-Reno at Northern Arizona

AA playoffs last season and finished the season with a respectable 8-4 record. But the Vandals are hoping to challenge for the top spot in the Big Sky and topple defending champion Nevada-Reno.

Neosia Morris, last year's leading re-

ceiver with 59 catches and three touchdowns, is back. And all five starters on the offensive line return to anchor Idaho's high-powered offense. Sophomore quarterback Jim Friesz is the leading candidate to direct an offense that averaged 414 yards a game last season.

Idaho's defense, which gave up 372 yards a game last season, returns six starters, including three out of four defensive backs.

Northern Arizona

The emergence of sophomore quarterback Greg Wyatt last season was a godsend for the Lumberjacks, as they recorded their first winning season since 1979.

Wyatt completed 250 of 392 passes for 2,862 yards and 17 touchdowns. His yardage and completion numbers were the best single-season performances in NAU history.

Wyatt's favorite target, tight end Shawn Collins, returns for his junior year after hauling down 70 passes for 1,016 yards last year.

Defense is an overriding concern for third-year coach Larry Kentera, having lost 10 starters from last year. Defensive end Scott Johnson (6-2, 238), is the lone returnee from the Big Sky's second-best defense last season.

Montana

Second-year Grizzly coach Don Read, whose squad is coming off a 6-4 overall record (3-4 in the Big Sky), hopes his team can improve on their fifth-place finish with a solid group of returnees.

"We should have a good, solid team," said Read. One standout is offensive tackle Larry Clarkson. At 6-7 and 308 pounds, Clarkson is considered by many to be a top NFL prospect. But the ques-

tion of who will replace quarterback Brent Pease, the Big Sky's total offense leader last year, is unanswered.

Defensively, the Grizzlies have nine starters returning, although they yielded 467.7 yards per game last season, second worst in the Big Sky. Defensive end Pat Foster leads the defensive returnees, having racked up 55 tackles and five quarterback sacks in 1986.

Weber State

The last few years the Wildcats have proved they can score with anybody. The problem has been they haven't been able to stop anybody.

This year coach Mark Price's team plans to go to a more balanced attack, especially with Sean Sanders. The senior fullback rushed for 945 yards and 12 touchdowns last season, the fourth-best rushing performance in school history. Don't discount the Cats' wide-open passing attack, either, with junior tight end Gerald Wilcox and sophomore wide receiver Wade Orton returning after solid performances last year.

Juniors Jeff Carlson and Dave Critchlow are battling for the quarter-back position. A big, experienced offensive line, anchored by 6-9, 300-pound senior tackle Kelly Widmeyer and 6-3, 255-pound senior guard Angus MacInnes, should be a strength.

The Wildcats return seven starters on defense, but how much better they will be than last year, when they yielded 434 yards per game, remains to be seen.

Idaho State

Returning quarterback Gino Mariani gives the Bengals some hope to improve on their 2-9 season and last-place finish in the Big Sky in 1986. Mariani passed for 2,599 yards and 19 touchdowns last season.

The Bengals were able to roll up a respectable 370.4 yards a game in total offense, but the defense allowed opponents 468.8 yards a game, worst in the Big Sky. The Bengals do return nine players on defense who started at least one game last season. "Our biggest goal is to become a more aggressive and intelligent defensive team," said ISU coach Jim Koetter. "We gave up too many big plays last season."

Eastern Washington

This year marks the Eagles' inaugural season into the Big Sky Conference, but after facing Big Sky opponents eight times in each of the last two seasons, they won't be strangers to Big Sky competition. In fact, in 1986 they posted a



Sean Sanders makes Weber State a force in the conference.

respectable 5-3 mark against Big Sky teams.

But with 14 fifth-year senior starters lost to graduation, coach Dick Zornes' squad may have a hard time duplicating that feat this season.

Last year's two top running backs, Vernon Williams and Jamie Townsend, who combined for nearly 1,500 yards last season, are the top returnees, but an inexperienced line and a new quarterback could slow the Eagles' offensive attack.

Boise State

First-year coach Skip Hall takes over a Boise State team that finished in an uncharacteristic fifth place last season despite having the best defense in the conference. It was the first time in 40 years that the Broncos have had a losing season, finishing 5-6.

Hall, who served as an assistant to Washington coach Don James the last 12 years, brings the Jamesian no-nonsense approach to the program this year. Defensive tackle Pete Kwiatkowski (6-3, 245) is the top returner after registering

91 tackles last season, though nine defensive starters are gone.

Things look brighter offensively, with many starters returning. Running back Chris Jackson's presence makes a major difference. Jackson, who missed six games last season due to a knee injury, rushed for 532 yards in five games.

Montana State

Montana State will start the season with a new coach and a new Veer offense. Earl Solomonson, who led North Dakota State to two straight NCAA Division II titles, will bring his run-oriented offense to a program that was the conference's worst running team with 1.4 yards a carry last season.

Halfback Kirk Copeland is the top returning offensive player for the Bobcats after gaining 430 of the team's 536 rushing yards. At quarterback, Kelly Sherwin or Shaun Sahin will start.

On defense, last year's leading tackler, linebacker Ken Lang, is back after tallying 137 tackles in 1986. Free safety Bob Kimball returns for his junior year, having led the team with five interceptions.

—Jon Higuera

Pacific

Coast

Athletic

Association

Loaded Spartans Have The Ammunition To Repeat

BEFORE THE START OF THE 1986 season, Fresno State quarterback Kevin Sweeney was grabbing all the hype as he began his quest to break Doug Flutie's NCAA record for passing yardage in a career. Sweeney broke the record and the Bulldogs had a good year, but they were upstaged by San Jose State and its own quarterback, Mike Perez, who came from nowhere to lead the Spartans to the top of the league standings.

This year Perez and the Spartans are clear-cut favorites for league honors. Fresno State looms as the likely challenger, but the Bulldogs are rebuilding. Anything other than a two-team race would qualify as a tale of the unexpected.

San Jose State

Okay, so Mike Perez didn't exactly "come from nowhere." He emerged from junior college—the next best thing—to lead the Spartans to a 10-2 record and a big victory (37-7) over Miami of Ohio in the California Bowl.

In a banner junior season, Perez completed 249 of 421 passes (59.1%) for 3,225 yards and 17 touchdowns. But wait, there's more. Tailback Kenny Jackson ran for 1,135 yards and 12 touchdowns, and was dubbed by coach Claude Gilbert, "The best back I ever coached." Wide receiver Guy Liggins caught 80 passes for 1,116 yards and eight touchdowns.

The defense, led by rover Greg Cox, is solid, and so is the kicking game. The only area of concern is the offensive line, where four starters are gone.

Fresno State

Unlike the Spartans, the Bulldogs will

have to replace their top quarterback from last season. Sweeney left a host of passing records by which to be remembered, but that won't be much help to his dad, head coach Jim Sweeney.

Kevin Sweeney isn't the only key

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. San Jose State
- 2. Fresno State
- 3. Fullerton State
- 4. Nevada-Las Vegas
- 5. Long Beach State
- 6. Utah State
- 7. Pacific
- 8. New Mexico State

Players To Watch:

Mike Perez, QB, San Jose State; Kenny Jackson, RB, San Jose State; Jethro Franklin, DL, Fresno State; Barry Belli, PK, Fresno State; Ronnie Barber, QB, Fullerton State; George Thomas, WR, UNLV; Jeff Graham, QB, Long Beach State; Tony Brown, DB, Utah State

Team To Watch:

Fullerton State

Games To Watch:

Oct. 3—Fullerton State at San Jose State; Oct. 17—San Jose State at Fresno State; Oct. 24—UNLV at San Jose State; Nov. 7—Fullerton State at Fresno State

departure. James Williams and Anthony Mosley, the leading and third-leading rushers on the team a year ago, are also gone from last year's 9-2 club. So is most of the offensive line. Placekicker-punter Barry Belli, who was good on 21 of 31 field goal attempts in '86, including a

best of 54 yards, will be relied upon even more.

The same story applies on defense, where seven starters are gone from a unit that recorded 70 quarterback sacks and held opponents to fewer than 14 points a game. But the top sack man, defensive end Jethro Franklin, is back.

Fullerton State

The Titans should rebound from their first losing season (3-9) in four years, unless their schedule is too great an obstacle to overcome. Playing in five different time zones this fall, the Titans travel to Southeastern Conference powers Florida and Louisiana State, as well as to Western Athletic Conference toughie Hawaii.

Coach Gene Murphy welcomes back eight starters on offense, including quarterback Ronnie Barber (who passed for more than 1,600 yards and 14 touchdowns), wide receiver Todd White (41 receptions), and tight end Jim Thornton. But the Titans will miss running back Rick Calhoun, the school's all-time leading rusher.

The key task for Murphy will be rebuilding a defense that was so porous last year that it allowed at least 24 points in every game but one.

Nevada Las-Vegas

Head coach Wayne Nunnely is gambling that a new offense, built around the short pass, will produce big payoffs.

Speedy wide receiver George Thomas, who averaged 23.8 yards per catch on 34 receptions last year, will be a big part of the new scheme. He will have to be because the Rebels lost their top two ground gainers and must replace quarterback Steve Stallworth.



Defensively, UNLV has a solid and experienced crew of linebackers, but the unit is young up front and in the secondary.

Long Beach State

Larry Riesbig takes over as head coach and inherits quarterback Jeff Graham, who passed for nearly 3,000 yards last year. Still, Riesbig wants to improve a running attack that averaged a paltry 68.3 yards per game last season.

All-purpose fullback Mark Templeton, who ran for 500 yards and caught an NCAA-leading 99 passes last year, is gone, as is top wide receiver Charles Lockett. The offensive line needs to be rebuilt.

A lot of work must be done on the defense, which gave up nearly 400 yards a game last year and allowed 124 points over the last four games.

Utah State

Take away 70 points scored in back-toback games last year and the Aggies offense managed to score just 64 points combined in the other nine contests. That's why finding a way to produce points is the top priority of coach Chuck Shelton.

The starting quarterback position is up

Quarterback Mike Perez and tailback Kenny Jackson make San Jose State the team to beat.

for grabs, but most of the offensive line returns. On defense, Shelton has to start from scratch at linebacker. Cornerback Tony Brown is a good one.

A schedule that includes road contests at Nebraska, Kentucky, and Brigham Young in the first four games won't make life any easier for the Aggies.

Pacific

Although their 4-7 record was nothing special, some nice things happened to the Tigers last year. There was the victory over Minnesota of the Big 10, and their rushing average of 269 yards per game, ranking them seventh in the nation in that statistic.

Now forget all that. Pacific lost its quarterback, Hue Jackson, who was skilled in operating coach Bob Cope's Wishbone, and the top three rushers are also gone. Defense never has been the Tigers' stength, and it probably won't be again this year.

Cope has brought in 15 Juco transfers and is counting on several redshirts.



Mike Knoll knew things would be tough when he was named head coach in the spring of '86, and he wasn't surprised last fall. The Aggies went 1-10 in Knoll's debut season, managing a victory over Fullerton State before losing the final nine games of the year.

Other numbers were just as ugly. The defense gave up 41 points or more on seven occasions. The offense topped the 20-point mark just three times.

Knoll, who was an assistant coach for the 1978 team that posted the only winning record at New Mexico State in the last 18 years, has shaken things up. Quarterback Jim Miller was moved to safety, among other position switches, and 12 junior college transfers were brought in.

-Bob Cohn



Western

Athletic

Conference

More Woes For The Cougars: The Aztecs Will Pass By Again

HEN SAN DIEGO STATE knocked off Brigham Young, 10-3, late last season for the Western Athletic Conference title, it marked the first time in 10 years the Cougars failed to bring the WAC crown back to Provo.

The last time BYU coach LaVell Edwards' squad had finished out of first was back in 1975 when Arizona State and Arizona still roamed the WAC prairies before moving on to greener pastures of the Pac-10.

Since then, the Cougars domination of the WAC included one national championship in 1984 and several Heisman Trophy candidates in quarterbacks Gifford Nielsen, Marc Wilson, Jim McMahon, Steve Young, and Robbie Bosco.

It's the Aztecs who now provide the WAC's best bet for a Heisman Trophy in senior quarterback Todd Santos. The three-year starter could become the NCAA career passing leader if he rolls up 3,130 yards or better through the air this season. Overall, the Aztecs have the experience to defend their title.

San Diego State

The talk around San Diego concerning the Aztecs program is that it's regained the prestige, pride, and firepower of its glory years, when former coach Don Coryell led them to a 104-19-2 record between 1961 and 1972.

Chances are good the Aztecs will celebrate a second WAC title at the end of the 1987 season—if Santos can stay healthy. In fact, the health of the 6-2, 200-pounder—who has already shattered the career marks of other great Aztec quarterbacks, such as Brian Sipe, Craig Penrose, and Dennis Shaw—is vital since none of the back-ups have any varsity experience.

"I anticipate Todd will have an outstanding year," said San Diego State coach Denny Stoltz. "He has a lot of ability and a lot of the traits you really like in a quarterback."

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. San Diego State
- 2. Brigham Young
- 3. Wyoming
- 4. Utah
- 5. Air Force
- 6. Hawaii
- 7. UTEP
- 8. New Mexico
- 9. Colorado State

Players To Watch:

Todd Santos, QB, San Diego State; Dave Futrell, NG, Brigham Young; Galand Thaxton, MLB, Wyoming; Eddie Johnson, RB, Utah; Chad Hennings, DT, Air Force; Al Noga, DT, Hawaii; John Harvey, RB, UTEP; J.D. Brookhart, WR, Colorado State

Teams To Watch:

Hawaii, Wyoming

Games To Watch:

Sept. 5—Air Force at Wyoming; Oct. 3—San Diego State at Wyoming; Oct. 17—Utah at Hawaii; Oct. 31—Air Force at BYU; Nov. 7—San Diego State at BYU; Nov. 21—Utah at BYU.

A problem the Aztecs did face last season was their inability to protect Santos; he was sacked over 40 times during the year.

According to Stoltz, breakdowns on the line, new people in certain positions, and poor blocking strategies were the cause. Experience on the offensive linefour of last year's five starters are back—should lower the sack exchange.

The Aztecs' defensive backfield has three starters returning. Cornerbacks Mario Mitchell and Clarence Nunn combined to break up 19 passes last season and safety Harold Hicks had three interceptions in the final two games. Mike Hooper and Brett Faryniars return to hold down the defensive end positions.

The question mark on defense is at linebacker, where only one player returns with any starting experience.

Brigham Young

Last year's 8-5 season seemed like an eternity for the fans in Provo. Things weren't the same. Gone was the offense that rolled up yardage against anybody. Gone was the streak of All-America quarterbacks.

Turmoil also plagued the Cougars off the field—three players were caught forging prescriptions for pain killers.

So where do the Cougars go from here? Coach Edwards, who is entering his 16th season at BYU, hopes the direction is up. Going into fall practice, he has given the quarterback reins to junior Bob Jensen, who saw considerable action in the final four games last season. In his first start he led the Cougars past Air Force on national television, but he also struggled in BYU's 31-10 loss to UCLA in the Freedom Bowl.

If running back Tom Tuipulotu can recover from a severe knee injury, he will see a lot of action. The Cougars should be OK on the offensive line with three starters returning.

The departure of defensive tackles Shawn Knight and Outland Trophy-winner Jason Buck to the NFL will leave the Cougars some holes to fill. Nose guard Dave Futrell is the top returnee.



San Diego State QB Todd Santos is Heisman Trophy-caliber.

Linebacking shouldn't be a problem for the Cougars: the four top candidates—Thor Salanoa, Richard Hobbs, Regan Hansen, and J.C. VonColln have starting experience.

Wyoming

After featuring a Wishbone attack the previous 10 years, the Cowboys switched to an aerial foray last season and gained nearly 300 yards per game. And with just about every starter back at the skill positions, the Cowboys, under new head coach Paul Roach, could be the sleeper in this year's bid for the WAC title.

In all, the Pokes return 15 starters—eight on defense and seven on offense. Not the least of these is quarterback Craig Burnett, who only started four games last year but still connected on 120 passes in 220 attempts for 1,242 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Burnett will have his top three receivers back: senior split end James Loving (54 catches, 673 yards, and six touchdowns; senior tight end Bill Hoffman (51-469-1); and senior split end Anthony Sargent (47-655-8), the WAC's Newcomer of the Year last season. Those three, and split end Eric Loftus, pose a lethal threat to any secondary.

Two-time All-WAC middle linebacker Galand Thaxton, the team's leading tackler last season, leads the defensive charge, along with tackle Jeff Knapton and defensive end Keith Jackson. Cornerback Steve McMillan returns to solidify the Poke secondary; he was academically ineligible last season.

Utah

In 1986 the Utes undoubtedly sported the best offense of any 2-9 team in the country, finishing fourth nationally in passing and eighth in total offense.

Unfortunately for third-year coach Jim Fassel, nobody took notice of his team's offensive output because the defense was the worst in the country.

Part of the reason behind the Utes' demise last season was injuries, as even placekicker Andre Guardi, the school record-holder for field goals, went out with a broken leg midway through the season. After watching his team give up

495 total yards a game last season, Fassel brought in a new defensive coordinator, Tom Gadd from South Carolina, to shore up his defensive unit.

Barring the injuries of last season, the Utes should be much improved this year.

Replacing two-year starting quarterback Larry Egger, who became the Utes' all-time leading passer (5,749 yards and 39 touchdowns) in only two short years, tops the list of priorities.

Senior Chris Mendonca and redshirt freshman Scott Mitchell are competing for this year's signal-calling duties. Mendonca has experience and mobility, while Mitchell has a cannon arm.

Gone is last year's leading receiver, Loren Richey, whose 67 catches placed him second nationally; returning wide receivers Carl Harry and Jeff Jenkins are expected to pick up the slack. Southern Methodist transfer Vince Jenkins will add another dimension to the Utes' passing arsenal at tight end.

All-WAC performer Eddie Johnson returns at tailback for his senior season after finishing second in WAC rushing last season (1,046 yards). Look for Johnson to have another big year if he stays healthy. Last year's starting fullback, Bryan Bero, went down with a knee injury in the spring and is likely to be redshirted this year. Offensive guard John New (6-1, 250) is the only returner on a line that will be young and inexperienced.

Defensive end Tika Manu (6-4, 258), who recorded 33 tackles and three quarterback sacks last season, is one of six returning players on defense. Strong safety Mike Jones is back in the secondary after being granted hardship after only playing two games last season because of an ankle injury; he should solidify a poor Utes secondary.

Air Force

The Falcons had an up-and-down year last season, struggling to find some consistency in the Wishone offense that had in 1985 propelled them to a share of the WAC title.

Last season's 6-5 performance prompted Air Force coach Fisher De-Berry to conduct a wide-open preseason, with most positions open to the best performer. The Falcons only return two starters on defense and five on offense.

Defensive tackle Chad Hennings (6-5, 260), a 1986 Academic All-American, and nose guard John Steed (6-2, 225) give the Falcons a solid defensive line.

The battle for the starting quarterback position is between four players. Dee Dowis got a lot of experience last season

and would have to be considered the favorite. A host of running backs will vie for playing time. Robert Krause leads the backfield in experience, having gained 178 yards in 33 carries in 1986.

Once again the Falcons will play for two trophies this season—the WAC and the Commander in Chief's Trophy, which goes to the service academy (Navy, Army, or Air Force) with the best record in games played against one another.

Hawaii

The Rainbows start out the season with a new head coach in Bob Wagner, and will also get a new look with the Run-and-Shoot offense.

Wagner, who was former coach Dick Tomey's defensive assistant for 10 years, brought in former Georgia Southern offensive coordinator Paul Johnson to run the complicated offense. Johnson's high-powered offense at Georgia Southern led Division I-AA schools in rushing yards, total yards, and points scored per game last season.

Under Wagner's direction the last four years, the Hawaii defense gained a reputation for stinginess and tenacious hitting. Last season, the 'Bows finished sixth nationally in total defense, and have finished in the nation's top 20 in total defense two out of the last three years. This year Wagner has left the defensive chores to assistant coach Rick Ellerson.

No one played a bigger part in Hawaii's defensive success last year than Al Noga. The 6-2, 260-pound senior defensive tackle was an Associated Press first-team All-America pick and captured WAC Defensive Player of the Year honors, managing somehow to beat out Outland Trophy winner Jason Buck of BYU. Heading into his senior season, Noga is already recognized as one of the top defensive linemen in the country and holds Hawaii career records for most tackles that result in a loss (51), most tackles for a loss in a season (31), most sacks in a season (17), and most fumbles caused in a season (6).

Noga and defensive back Pat McCray are the only returning starters on the defensive side of the ball; the Rainbows will count on talented but inexperienced people to fill the holes. Players like sophomore tackle Nick Maafala (6-2, 260), sophomore nose guards Dana Directo (6-2, 250), and Tavita Sagapolu (5-11, 260) will have to step forward this season.

How well the 'Bows adjust to the Runand-Shoot this year will play a major role in their success. Warren Brown heads the list of quarterback candidates to run the offense. His mobility gives him the

edge over other potential starters, such as sophomores Ken Niumatalolo (6-1, 200), Walter Briggs (6-0, 189), and redshirt freshman Garrett Gabriel (6-2, 185).

Marco Johnson, an All-WAC first-team return specialist last year, will play wingback this season after catching 38 passes for 520 yards as a split end last year. Junior center Amosa Amosa (6-2, 265) is back after an injury-riddled sophomore year to anchor a young offensive line.

UTEP

A 4-8 season may not sound that great by most college standards, but for the Miners it was a big improvement, considering they could only muster eight wins in the previous five years. Fans were pleased with first-year coach Bob Stull's performance, and even more impressed by the fact the Miners lost three games by a total of nine points. Those three losses were hard to take—losing to WAC champion San Diego 15-10, Air Force 23-21, and New Mexico 24-22.

Offensively, running back John Harvey will be the main threat, having gained over a 1,000 all-purpose yards last year. Junior college transfer Pat Hagarty established himself as the top quarterback in spring drills, replacing Sammy Garza, one of the nation's leading passers last season. Hagarty will have experienced hands to throw to because the Miners return their top four wide receivers. Arnie Adkinson, who saw a lot of playing time at tight end, also returns.

The defensive question mark for the Miners is at secondary where safeties Richie Wright and Terry Walker return, but where the Miners will have a struggle finding replacements for the corners. The heart of the Miners defense is at inside linebacker, where sophomore Doug Morgan (6-1, 200), last year's catalyst, returns. The Miners, perpetual doormats in the WAC, could possibly finish with a winning record for the first time since 1970.

New Mexico

The Lobos have been able to roll up a bundle of yardage during the past two seasons, but a weak defense has dropped them to the bottom half of the WAC. Last year seven New Mexico opponents scored 30 or more points; the Lobos gave up a 483.9 yards per game in 1986, second worst in the conference.

New head coach Mike Sheppard replaces departed Joe Lee Dunn, who resigned after last season. Sheppard will try a variety of different looks on defense in attempt to solve the Lobos' defensive woes. "We are going to play a lot of different fronts, a lot of different personnel combinations, and try to get the best people on the field for the proper situation," said Sheppard.

Wide receiver Terrance Mathis is the top returnee from last year's offense, which set a school record for total offense with 5,269 yards. Mathis hauled in 53 passes for 955 yards and 10 touchdowns. "I think everyone knows we emphasize throwing the football," said Sheppard. "However, we're also going to attempt to establish some running plays."

The Lobos have 38 lettermen returning and 16 players who started at various times last season. But with only four games at home this season, it could be a long, hard season for Sheppard and his staff.

Colorado State

The Rams have shown steady improvement ever since coach Leon Fuller took over the reins of the CSU program in 1982. But this may be the year the Rams take a step backward because Fuller will have his hands full trying to replace all-everything running back Steve Bartalo, who led the WAC in rushing four straight years, and quarterback Kelly Stouffer, the most prolific passer in the school's history.

Last year the Rams had an opportunity to win their first WAC title in the school's history, but back-to-back losses to San Diego State and Utah during the stretch derailed those hopes.

Junior college transfer Scooter Molander is the best bet to replace Stouffer, although returning junior Tim Pedersen is also in the running.

Whoever wins the job will have last year's entire receiving corps back intact. Flanker J.D. Brookhart, last season's leading yardage receiver (27 catches, 581 yards), will share the position with speedster Sanjay Beach (13-192), while Todd Tyrell (28-496) and Dewey Dorough (14-224) will both see action at split end.

For the first time in four years the Rams will go to a two-back formation. Scott Whitehouse takes over tailback duties while a host of candidates vie for the fullback slot.

Tackle Doug Fiala and guard Todd Eakes are the only returning starting offensive linemen, and Robert Dakovich replaces two-time All-WAC center Guy Goar. Fiala figures to make a bid at post-season honors.

Safety Ron Cortell, an all-league second-team selection and the team's second-leading tackler (109) last season, returns for his junior year.

—Tom Christensen

Pac-10

Conference

The Grass Will Be 'Greener' For UCLA

EVER MIND NEEDING A scorecard to identify the players in the Pac-10, give us one to help determine who's coaching where. This past offseason produced the greatest coaching turnover in the league in recent memory. Larry Smith moved from Arizona to USC, Dick Tomey took over at Arizona, Dennis Erickson replaced Jim Walden at Washington State, and Bruce Snyder took the reins from Joe Kapp at California.

Talent usually prevails, however, and UCLA appears to have the edge in what again should be another close race. Actually, the only difference between the Bruins and the other contenders might be one player. No other team in the conference has a weapon as explosive and dangerous as tailback Gaston Green.

Arizona State, the defending Pac-10 champ, lost a lot from '86, but coach John Cooper has built a solid foundation in just two years. Washington is always strong and has perhaps the league's best returning quarterback in Chris Chandler.

Under Smith, USC will attempt to revive memories of its once crunching ground game, while Arizona unveils a new offense. And Stanford, believe it or not, will build its attack around a running back. That by itself is enough to make things interesting.

UCLA

They've started trying to locate a suitable spot on the UCLA campus for the Heisman Trophy, the one that might bear the name of Gaston Green.

Some say all that stands between Green and the first Heisman won by a UCLA player since Gary Beban 20 years ago is Green's health, no small matter considering that the 5-11, 190-pound sen-

ior has yet to play a full season at the college level. Consider last year, when Green was hobbled at the start. When he returned healthy, he averaged better than 164 yards a game rushing and scored 12 touchdowns over the final seven games, setting school records for

Predicted Order Of Finish

- 1. UCLA
- 2. Washington
- 3. Arizona State
- 4. USC
- 5. Arizona
- 6. Stanford
- 7. California
- 8. Oregon
- 9. Oregon State
- 10. Washington State

Players To Watch:

Gaston Green, RB, UCLA; Chris Chandler, QB, Washington; Aaron Cox, WR, Arizona State; Marcus Cotton, LB, USC; Chuck Cecil, S, Arizona; Brad Muster, RB, Stanford; Brian Forde, LB, Washington State

Teams To Watch: Arizona State, USC

Games To Watch:

Oct. 10—Arizona State at Washington; Oct. 17—USC at Washington; Oct. 31— UCLA at Arizona State; Nov. 14—Washington at UCLA; Nov. 21—UCLA at USC; Nov. 28—Arizona at Arizona State

rushing yardage (1,405) and touchdowns (17). He helped the Bruins to an 8-3-1 mark

Having Green at full strength will overcome the loss of offensive coordi-

nator Homer Smith (who's now coaching in the pros) and quarterback Matt Stevens. Oklahoma transfer Troy Aikman, who has a strong arm, and Brendan McCracken, who is quick enough to run the Wishbone, are vying for the open quarterback spot.

Tailbacks Eric Ball—coming off a knee injury—and James Primus are good enough to start for most other teams, and they will see action behind Green. Fullback Mel Farr, who appears to have recovered from a back injury, provides yet another running threat.

Willie (Flipper) Anderson (36 catches) is the top returning receiver, and the offensive line is strong and rich in experi-

The Bruins' defense returns seven starters and is especially deep and experienced along the front line, led by nose guard Terry Tumey.

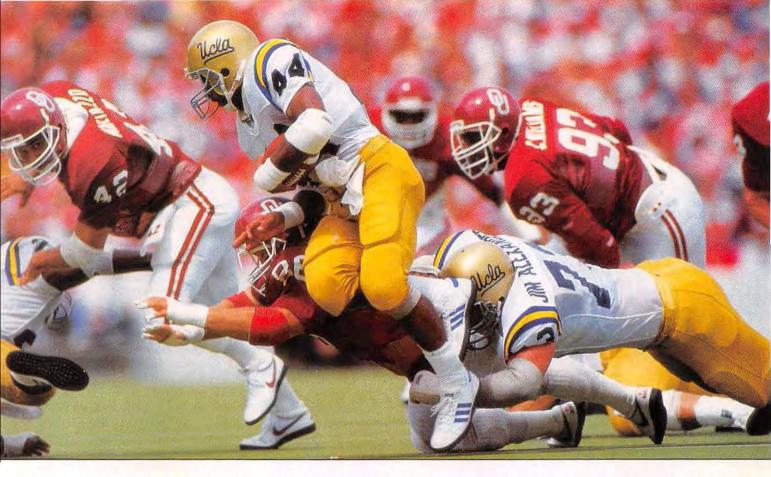
Senior linebacker Ken Norton is one of the nation's best. Darryl Henley, Dennis Price, and James Washington are experienced members of a secondary that was plagued by injuries last year.

"We should once again have a very competitive football team," said coach Terry Donahue. "We have a lot of seniors in key roles, and if some of our young players come through, I expect us to have a very good season."

Washington

The Huskies move to a new home for this season, the Kingdome, a move necessitated by the collapse of a new addition to their stadium on campus. It shouldn't be an omen, however.

Don James, the dean of Pac-10 coaches (101-39-1 in 12 seasons at Washington, including 8-3-1 in '86) will be gunning for his ninth straight bowl appearance and first trip to the Rose Bowl since the 1981



season. The Huskies have a shot at making it to Pasadena.

Last year Chandler (160-of-275, 1,994 yards, a school-record 20 TDs) led the offense to its most productive season in school history, averaging 33.8 points a game. Chandler might have to perform even better in 1986 because gone are full-back Rick Fenney, wide receiver Lonzell Hill, and NCAA record-setting place-kicker Jeff Jaeger.

"Chris Chandler is potentially the best quarterback we've ever had," James said. "He's got to say, 'If I'm a Heisman Trophy candidate, I've got to put the ball on the money, move the team, be in total control.' He's got good work habits. I'm sure that's the approach he'll take."

The loss of Hill will give Darryl Franklin a chance to shine as the top receiver. Fenney's absence allows one of three candidates—Tony Covington, Aaron Jenkins, or Ricky Meyer—to step forward. Replacing Jaeger will be more difficult. All he did in his career was boot 80 field goals in 99 tries and 118 of 123 PAT conversions.

If the offensive line stays free from injury—which was not the case last year—it could be one of the best in the Pac-10. Tailback Vince Weathersby averaged 5.3 yards a carry last year, tops in the league.

Like the offense, the defense returns seven starters. All-America defensive tackle Reggie Rogers is not one of them, but enough stopping power should be provided by the likes of down linemen Brian Habib and Dennis Brown and linebackers Bo Yates, David Rill, and Tom Erlandson.

Arizona State

What to do for an encore? In just his second season, Cooper led the Sun Devils to their first Pac-10 championship and a trip to the Rose Bowl, where they defeated Michigan, 22-15.

"I think our players realize what it takes to recapture the success of last year," Cooper said. "Hopefully, there will be a big carryover. Last year we had to earn everything we got, and our players realize that. It's going to be the intangibles—leadership, conditioning, remaining injury-free—that will play a big part in our season."

As impressive as their 1986 accomplishments were, doing it again this year would be even more remarkable. Several key performers are gone from last year's 10-1-1 team, including quarterback Jeff Van Raaphorst, three-fifths of an outstanding offensive line, and defensive stalwarts Scott Stephen, Skip McClendon, and Darren Willis.

The early front-runner at quarterback is Dan Ford, who served as Van Raaphorst's back-up last year. He will be challenged by Paul Justin and John Walker.

Gaston Green may bring a Pac-10 title, and the Heisman, to UCLA.

The latter started four games as a freshman in 1984, but has had arm troubles since.

The veteran backfield tandem of Darryl Harris and Channing Williams combined for 1,477 yards, but there is little depth behind them. Both tight ends, Jeff Gallimore and Stein Koss, need to be replaced, and guards Randall McDaniel and Todd Kalis are the only returnees from the offensive line. Swift wide receiver Aaron Cox averaged 20.4 yards on 29 receptions last year and is ready for another fine season in '87.

Fewer questions exist on defense. Shawn Patterson is expected to emerge as a top lineman, and both inside linebackers, Stacy Harvy and Greg Clark, are coming off productive seasons. Outside linebackers McClendon and Stephen will be missed, but Anthony Parker, Eric Allen, and Jeff Joseph are all three-year veterans in the secondary.

Placekicker Kent Bostrum (15 of 19 field goal attempts) and punter Mike Schuh both return. The main problem with the kicking game last year was finding someone to boot the ball deep on kickoffs. Redshirt freshman Alan Zendejas, a member of that notable family of kickers, might be able to solve that problem.

USC

Under the direction of coach Ted Tollner, the Trojans tried to catch up with the rest of the world and feature the pass as a major part of their offense. There was some success, but apparently not enough, because Tollner was fired after four seasons.

Smith is a throwback to the old days when coaches believed in establishing the run to set up the pass. He has announced that the Trojans will run first. Ryan Knight, a talented tailback who never played to his potential under Tollner, will be pushed by speedy Steve

Pac-10

Conference

Webster and a couple of freshman possibilities. The status of returning tailback Aaron Emanuel was unknown due to an "off-the-field incident." As usual, the offensive line is huge.

"We must run the football," Smith said. "I'm talking about 200-plus yards a game on the ground. Defensively we'll attack, have a big-play defense."

An interesting question is how Smith

plans to use junior quarterback Rodney Peete, who has shown signs of being the most exciting player in the league. Peete is both a talented runner and thrower. And wide receiver Ken Henry can catch the ball, as demonstrated by his 43 catches for 807 yards and seven touchdowns.

Veterans dot the defense, which is led by outside linebacker Marcus Cotton, who accounted for 17 tackles for losses, or "Cotton Clubs" as they are known. Inside backers Rex Moore and Keith Davis are steady, consistent players.

The defensive line will not suffer from the inexperience that it had last year, but the secondary is a potential trouble spot, as only one starter returns.

Arizona

It was hard to figure why finding a replacement for Smith as the Wildcats coach was so difficult. After all, he hardly left the program bereft. A total of 12 starters, six each on offense and defense, return from last year's 9-3 team.

Tomey, who finally was selected after compiling a 63-46-3 in 10 seasons at Hawaii, is shaking up a few things.

Tomey imported offensive coordinator Ben Griffith from New Mexico, where Griffith managed to incorporate both the Wishbone and Run-and-Shoot offense. That might not happen here, but the offense should be more free-wheeling than the grind-it-out style employed by Smith.

A new quarterback will run the offense now that Alfred Jenkins is gone, and the Cats got a big boost when Bobby Watters, who exhibited a strong arm and good mobility at SMU, transferred to Arizona.

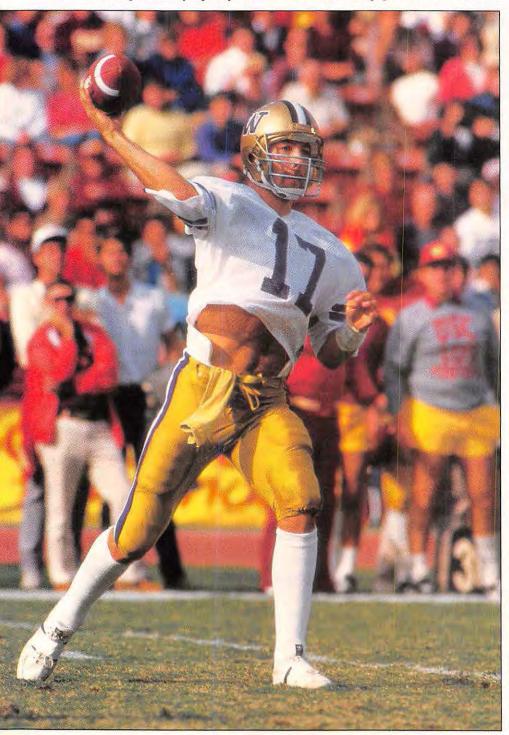
Also gone is scatback David Adams, who ran for 1,175 yards in 1986, but sophomore Art Greathouse appears ready to step in. Fullbacks Charles Webb and Joe Prior also return.

The offensive line, led by center Joe Toffelmire, is a solid unit, and wide receiver should be an area of strength. Derek Hill and Jon Fairholm combined for 56 receptions last year.

A front four that helped the Cats rank fourth in the nation in rushing defense includes such quality veterans as George Hinkle and Dana Wells. Three of the four starting linebackers must be replaced, but safety Chuck Cecil is back to lead an experienced secondary.

Placekicker Gary Coston, who made 21 of 24 field goal attempts, led the nation in kicking accuracy last year.

Chris Chandler leads a powerful Washington offensive attack.





Brad Muster gives Stanford its best ground game in years.

Stanford

The publicity people at Quarterback U. are pushing yet another Cardinal player for Heisman Trophy honors. But, surprise, it isn't another cannon-armed passer, but running back Brad Muster, a 6-3, 225-pound senior who last season led the Pac-10 in all-purpose rushing (147 yards a game) and was second in receiving (61 receptions).

As vital as Muster has been to the Cardinal, his role will take on even more importance this year because quarter-back John Paye, who held his own with past Stanford QB greats, is gone. Based on his performance in the final two games, when he replaced an injured Paye, senior Greg Ennis is the probable successor.

Center Andy Sinclair heads a morethan-adequate offensive line, and wide receiver Jeff James (52 catches for 779 yards) also returns.

For a change, Stanford put together a winning season (8-4) last year because of its defense, not in spite of it. The hope is that the aggressive spirit carries over to this season. Defensive leaders who should emerge for coach Jack Elway are linebacker Barry McKeever and safety Brad Humphreys.

Pac-10

Conference

California

It became apparent that Kapp, the coach, would not be able to restore the golden days that the Golden Bears enjoyed with Kapp, the quarterback.

Snyder brings to the job the qualities that Kapp lacked—experience and organization. Snyder has been a coach for 22 years, including seven fairly successful seasons as head coach at Utah State. He was running backs coach for the Los Angeles Rams, working for his close friend John Robinson, when he was named coach at California last season.

A student of the game with an approach that some might call obsessive, Snyder basically is tearing things down to begin again. The Bears have seven starters returning on both offense and defense, but how many of those will be holding the same jobs this year is a big question.

Even though disgruntled tailback Mark Hicks left the program, former Oklahoma transfer Chris Richards now has a full opportunity to display his talents. Troy Taylor, who completed better than 57% of his passes, returns at quarterback.

The defense, which allowed almost 30 points a game last year, is certain to be revamped. Nose guard Majett Whiteside, however, is a quality player.

Oregon

The news is not promising for the Ducks, who went 5-6 last season but will have an even tougher time keeping their heads above water without quarterback Chris Miller.

Miller, considered in some circles as the best quarterback in the Pac-10 the last two seasons, finished his Oregon career with most of the school passing and total offense records, formerly held by Dan Fouts.

Sophomore Pete Nelson has the inside track on the quarterback job. He will be pushed by redshirt freshmen Bill Musgrave and Tony Hargain.

Coach Rich Brooks has even more on his mind. He needs to not only reshape the offense in Miller's absence, but totally restructure a defense that allowed 31 points a game. So out goes the old 4-3 alignment and in comes the 5-2.

With an offense built around the run, sophomore tailback Derrick Loville has a chance to improve upon his team-leading 544 rushing yards. Several experienced pass receivers return, but the offensive line is young.

The retooled defense features nose tackle Rollin Putzier, moving over from tackle, and safety Anthony Newman.

Oregon State

So what if two of the first three games are road encounters with Georgia and Texas? No longer is the arrival of a new season met with a sense of doom, although the Beavers clearly have a long way to go.

Oregon State has passed its way to six victories the last two seasons under head coach Dave Kragthorpe. It may not seem like much until it is considered that the best prior two-year win total was seven in 1971 and '72.

Although just a junior, quarterback Eric Wilhelm already holds a bushel of Beavers passing records. The trigger man in Kragthorpe's ball-control aerial game, Wilhelm last year completed 283 passes in 470 attempts for 2,871 yards and eight touchdowns, but threw 17 interceptions.

Wilhelm loses top pass-catcher Dave Montagne (78 catches), and the running game, as always, is suspect. The Beavers' defense again scared no one last year, but it made big strides from 1985 and is expected to be even better this year with such quality players as tackle Rich Haggerty, middle linebacker Jeff Schneider, and cornerback Lavance Northington.

Washington State

The creative and quotable Jim Walden kept Washington State football alive from 1978 through last year, when he left for Iowa State after a 3-7-1 campaign. His replacement, Dennis Erickson, faces a monumental challenge.

Erickson has not had a losing season in five years as a head coach, developing potent passing games first at Idaho and then at Wyoming. He will instill the same philosophy with the Cougars. Erickson likes the big play, both on offense and defense.

Sophomore Timm Rosenbach, who backed up departed starter Ed Blount last year, could be the quarterback Erickson needs. His favorite targets should be wide receiver Victor Wood and running backs Steve Brouggard and Michael Pringle.

The Cougars perennially struggle on defense, but not because of a lack of effort by middle linebacker Brian Fords, an import from Canada who seems to be in on every tackle.

-Bob Cohn